

the Hippo

JANUARY 23 - 29, 2014

LIZARDS, GECKOS
& SNAKES P. 57

CHILI &
GRILLING P. 58

LOCAL NEWS, FOOD, ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

A snowboarder wearing a red jacket, green pants, and a helmet is captured mid-jump against a clear blue sky. The snowboarder is holding a white snowboard. The background shows a snowy mountain slope and some evergreen trees at the bottom right.

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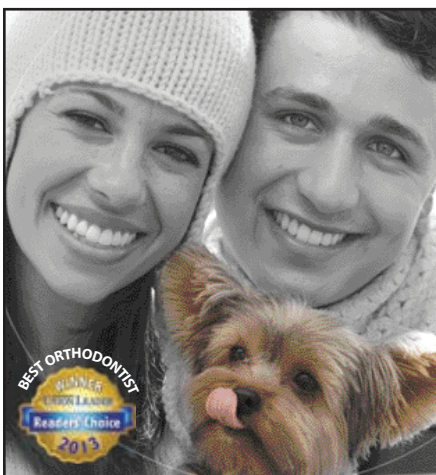
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**GRANITE VIEWS STEPHEN RENO
Taking the plunge**



As the water taps in Charleston, W.Va., were turned on last week, news reporters were on the scene interviewing residents who had been without municipal water for several days. One fellow commented, “Before this, I always took water for granted and never appreciated how much my life depends on it.”

His was a sentiment all of us would have shared had we been unable to turn the faucet to get a drink, cook our meals or take a shower. But in making that comment, the West Virginian was expressing a most fundamental human realization, one that is enshrined in the religious practice of faith communities around the world and across the centuries. Water is an intimate part of our lives.

Water is one of the most ubiquitous and powerful of religious symbols. It has played a role in myths and ceremonies ranging from stories of the creation of the world through rites of initiation and rituals attending death. In its many roles, water can symbolize the source of life or the means by which the old is washed away.

Muslims, before entering the mosque, purify themselves through washing so that they may be ready to go into sacred space to pray. Catholics on entering a church may dip their fingers in holy water and cross themselves, in recollection of the baptism by which their former self was washed away and the new life in Christ was taken on.

Water is, in short, a powerful but ambiguous force. To farmers, it can be the gentle rain for their crops or the flattening storm that wipes them out. Water can be the gentle river next to which we build our houses or the raging torrent that washes them away.

Water is also a mysterious, paradoxical force. In the Chinese tradition of Taoism, it is seen as a symbol of the “Way of the Universe.” Consider the little stream that flows down a hillside that, on encountering a large rock, flows around it, apparently accommodating itself to the harder substance of the stone. Yet, over time, the water’s apparent accommodation will eventually wear down the stone and wash it away. The lesson: Apparent weakness given time will prevail.

So, when next we turn on the tap, we might pause and not only appreciate that the water is there for our use — thanks to the many who invested in the infrastructure to bring it to us — but also that this apparently ordinary commodity has tap roots deep in our humanity and shared experience. We should take it a great deal more seriously.

Stephen Reno is executive director of Leadership New Hampshire, former professor of religious studies, and former chancellor of the University System of New Hampshire. His email is stepreno@gmail.com.



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ON THE COVER

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Have you ever dreamed of swooshing down the slopes or slicing up the ice like an Olympian? No matter how old you are, it’s not too late to give a new sport a try. Our reporters tried out skiing, snowboarding and curling and talked to local figure skaters who didn’t take to the ice until later in life. We’re finishing up our Look Good, Feel Great series with Olympics-inspired gusto.



Also on the cover, it’s the annual Wedding Guide starting on p. 31, and this year, we’re staying local. We have tips on everything from the proposal to the honeymoon, with cakes and entertainment in between — all with New Hampshire flair. Looking for something to do this weekend? Hang out with some scaly friends at the Reptile Expo (p. 57). Or fill up at a chili and chowda cookoff or the Polar Grill Fest (p.58).

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New Hampshire Postal Workers Union members outside the Manchester Staples. Courtesy photo.

Postal workers bring concerns to Staples

A delegation from Manchester Area Local and New Hampshire Postal Workers Union took a pre-emptive step against a partnership between the U.S. Postal Service and Staples stores last week. A small group visited the manager of the South Willow Street Staples in Manchester to say if postal units are put into New Hampshire Staples, and are run by Staples employees, they will protest it.

Last October, the Staples pilot project, called the Retail Partner Expansion Program, was launched in 82 stores nationwide (though none in New Hampshire — yet). The sections resembling mini-post offices would sell a variety of products and services, including stamps, Priority Mail, Priority Mail Express and package handling.

“Really what they are doing is privatizing postal services,” said Janice Kelble, the legislative director for the N.H. Postal Workers Union. “They are really taking middle-class jobs and destroying them. Staples was named one of the 50 largest low-wage employers in the U.S.”

Members of the Union are concerned that the program would take thousands of jobs away from middle-wage state postal workers and replace them with low-wage workers.

Kelble said when they approached the manager of the Staples store they expected to be turned away quickly, like union members in Boston were when they made the same move, so they were surprised when the manager received them kindly, asked questions, and said she would speak to her own manager about the group’s concern.

The Union members iterated that the postal union is 100 per-

cent in favor of expanding postal services and making them convenient, but it wants the jobs to go to postal workers, not Staples employees.

“We also said we are going to fight them on it,” she said. “We will ask our members to stop shopping at Staples.”

Handgun restrictions

Last week state Legislators considered a bill that would require New Hampshire to report to federal authorities people who are judged by a court to be mentally ill. The state would then be required to send their names to be added to a federal list of people denied the rights to buy guns. The consideration led advocates for the mentally ill to urge state senators to focus on who is dangerous to society before singling out people with mental issues, the Associated Press reported. Kenneth Norton, executive director of the New Hampshire chapter of the National Alliance on Mental Illness, said the mentally ill are more likely to be victims of violence than perpetrators of violence, and a higher correlation exists between substance abuse and violence than mental illness and violence, the AP reported.

Under an amended version of the bill submitted last Tuesday, four groups of people would be prohibited from purchasing guns from a federally licensed gun dealer:

- Those found incompetent to stand trial due to a mental disease or developmental or intellectual disability.
- People found not guilty of a criminal offense by reason of insanity unless the criminal record had been annulled.
- Anyone appointed a guardian because a developmental disability had left them unable to care for themselves, their property or finances.
- People involuntarily committed to a mental health facility after a court hearing, in a nonemergency situation.

ICE a senior’s phone

The New Hampshire branch of Visiting Angels, one of the nation’s largest in-home senior care agencies, has launched the

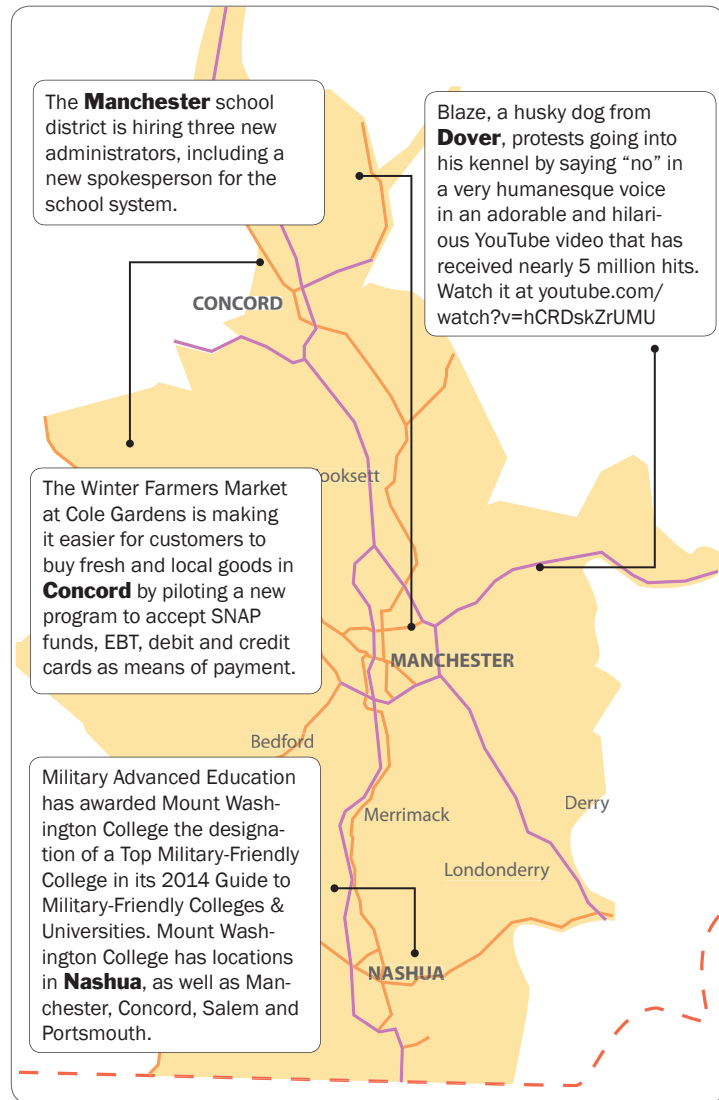
ICE a Cell Phone Safety Campaign to help seniors in case of emergency, according to a press release. To ICE a cell phone, emergency contacts are loaded in seniors’ phones with the word ICE in front of the emergency contacts’ names. When someone finds a senior in trouble they know who to call in cases of emergency. Visiting Angels will ICE a senior’s cell phone for free, or they will teach families how to ICE a senior’s phone. The organization hopes this will become a universal emergency plan — a quick way for emergency responders to pick up a senior’s cell phone, and press the letter ‘I’ to find seniors’ emergency contacts.

Beethoven manuscript sold

Bidding ended last Wednesday at RR auction in Amherst on a rare sketch leaf manuscript by the German composer Ludwig van Beethoven. The historically important one-page autographed sketch leaf for Beethoven’s *Missa Solemnis* is believed to be circa 1820 to 1821.

“We’ve had interest from around the world. It’s an incredible piece,” Bobby Livingston at RR auctions told the Hippo.

Livingston said the sheet attracted interest from all over the world. It is particularly special because Beethoven tore it out of his pocketbook, folded it up and carried it around with him, then wrote on it as he became inspired. The book Beethoven pulled the sheet out of has been in the Berlin Museum since the 1840s, Livingston said. The paper was discovered in 1996



and has a different time signature than the finished product.

Marijuana OK’d by House

After a week delay, the state House of Representatives gave preliminary approval to legalize up to one ounce of marijuana for recreational use for anyone age 21 or older, the Associated Press reported. It nearly didn’t happen, though. The bill was almost killed

by two votes before the House reconsidered and passed the bill 170-162 after a heated 2½-hour debate. Next, the bill moves to its tax committee for review before getting a final vote. Even if the Senate supports the proposal, Gov. Maggie Hassan has already promised to veto the bill if it makes it to her desk, according to the AP. 🐾

BEST WEEK

JENNIFER LEE, GOLDEN GLOBE WINNER

University of New Hampshire alumna Jennifer Lee took home the 2014 Golden Globe award for best animated feature last week. Lee wrote the screenplay for the Disney film *Frozen*, and she also co-directed the movie. She’s the first female director of a Walt Disney Animation Studios feature film and the first writer of any major animation studio to become a director. In an interview with WMUR, Lee gave a shout-out to UNH, thanking her professors, who helped her learn to become a storyteller. Lee said she plans to take a break before starting on a new project.

WORST WEEK

NH MOOSE

In the coming weeks New Hampshire Fish and Game Department will be investigating the dramatic decline of the state’s moose population, CBS reported. The moose are dying off at a higher-rate, even though hunting permits are down. Fish and Game crews will be entering state forests via helicopter before tagging, tranquilizing and drawing blood from some 4,000 moose. Ticks on the moose also will be counted. Kristine Rines, Moose Project leader for New Hampshire Fish and Game, said she hopes the efforts will explain whether environmental factors are going to impact the animals so much that the decline will be irreversible.

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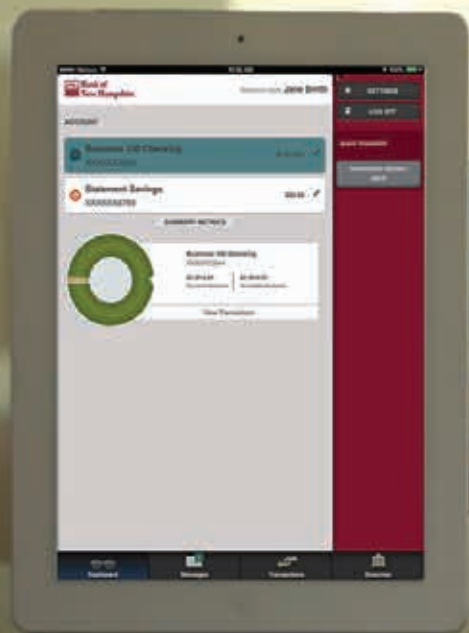
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New farmers in town

Rising population of first-generation farmers are connecting to mentors

By Rebecca Fishow
rfishow@hippopress.com

Depending on who you ask, the landscape for New Hampshire farming is either awful and dire or burgeoning and exciting, said Ray Conner, Northeast Organic Farming Association of New Hampshire’s Beginner Farmer program coordinator. But for an increasing number of environment-minded individuals, the prospect of becoming a commercial farmer is appealing.

“There are a lot of especially young people, but even second-career older folks who are really excited at the prospect of starting farms,” Conner said.

While the excitement is well and good, acquiring the production and business skills needed to succeed in the industry is another story. In an effort to support people who are serious about the endeavor, NOFA-NH offers Journeyperson and Mentorship program. The deadline to apply for the 2014 Journeyperson program has been extended to Feb. 3.

The programs are especially important because the population of U.S. farmers is aging out, Conner said. “A huge number of [farmers’] kids don’t want to farm. The first-generation farmer is happening more and more, especially in the Northeast, where farming is really intimate and direct.”

These new farming hopefuls are young people who want to be self-sufficient, closer to the land and their own bosses, or they are older people who want to get into commercial farming as a second career.

“I speculate that it’s the lifestyle to some extent. It’s definitely not going to be for the money. It’s personal satisfaction of doing something with their hands,” said Gary Keough, statistician for the United States Department of Agriculture, New Hampshire.

Elizabeth Morris, a former Journeyperson mentee, grew up on 40 acres in northern New Hampshire. Her family always had a noncommercial garden, but it wasn’t until she moved to bustling Tampa, came back to her home state, married and had children that she began a serious farming venture. What started as a small garden burgeoned after a friend offered her the use of a 75-acre plot of land. Soon, she had started her own CSA.

Morris thinks New Hampshire is on the cusp of huge agricultural improvements.

“It can go one way or the other, and that is hugely dependant on big legislation,” she said. “The residents are wanting to have access to local food, and the farmers in New Hampshire want to offer that, but big legislation can stand in the way. It can make or break the success of New Hampshire agriculture.”

There’s been an increase in funding and loan opportunities for New Hampshire farmers too. Last year New Hampshire Community Loan Fund began offering a Farm Food Initiative in response to a growing demand for local produce. It works with mostly first-generation farmers, said Charlene Andersen, manager of business education.

“Most of what we’re seeing right now is folks looking for additional capital in relation to land,” she said. “They are looking at land purchases as well as some equipment. A lot of them are looking for market expansion.”

As part of the initiative, the Community Loan Fund also offers technical assistance.

“We have farmers that are very good at what they do, but like any business owner they can’t do everything” she said.

Andersen has seen an interest across the board in helping farmers and food producers prepare for what happens when they take out a loan and acquire more debt.

The two-year Journeyperson Program is meant to offer people with one to three years of farming experience a chance to obtain the skills necessary to break into the business, without the high costs associated with enrolling in a university program, Conner said.

That can be a real help for individuals who already have student loan debt. Journeyperson mentors act as consultants and are located throughout the state so mentees can conveniently access their farms for required farm visits. NOFA-NH challenges mentees to find mentors that would work best for them. Conner receives from 10 to 15 applicants a year for two spots. Participants receive \$500 for education and \$600 for business planning.

Morris’ mentor helped her through a devastating rainy spring in 2013. That season, it rained non-stop during what was supposed to be the most productive growing weeks.

So you want to start a farm?

Gary Keogh shares his advice for agricultural newbies.

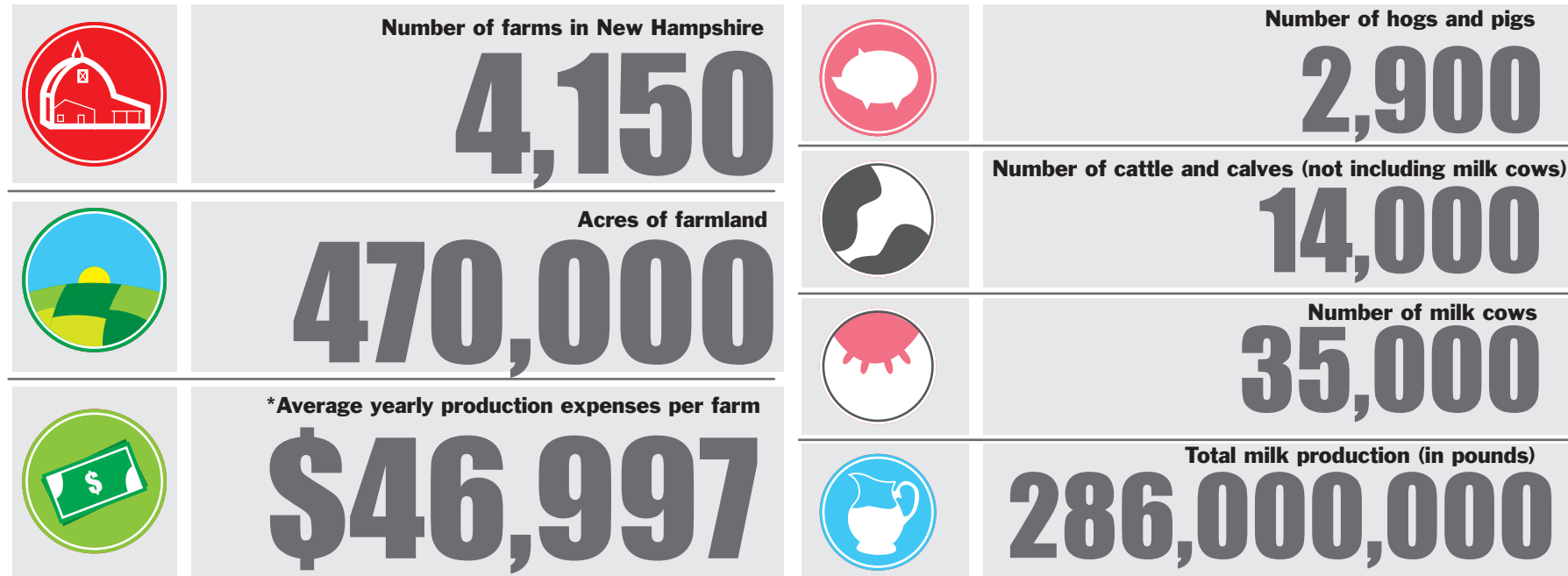
1. Practice farming on whatever property you can. That can include growing containers in your backyard.
2. Enroll in an apprenticeship program or get a part-time job working on a farm to get some hands-on knowledge.
3. Save money and get capital. Begin to think of farming as a business.
4. Don’t expect to be able to survive on just farm income. Most farmers across the country have two sources of income.

Morris had to replant her crop three times, and her CSA was delayed.

“We had specific business conversations, like ‘What do we do? What are the options?’ Some farmers were like, ‘Hey we’re sorry’ [to customers]. Others offered extended weeks. [My mentor] offered to renegotiate the terms of CSA share and offer refunds. She has this huge diverse background specifically in mentoring farm hands so she has a huge wealth of information. Farming can be frustrating. Organic farming in a rainy season can be destructive to a person. ...[having a mentor] makes you feel like you’re not facing it because you don’t know what you’re doing. You’re facing it because this is what we face. I’m not just inept.”

While milk and greenhouse products make up roughly 30 percent of the state’s total agricultural production, new farmers tend to start with vegetable and small fruit production. Strawberries and raspber-

NH agriculture by the numbers



2011 USDA State Agriculture overview. *2007 census of agriculture state profile

ries often generate production in a year or two. Small-scale livestock production also is popular amongst this demographic. An increased interest in local meat secured the state three new slaughterhouses last year.

The hardest part of beginning a farm is often learning the business side of the operation. New farmers often do not make enough money because they don't keep track of their yields and don't know where the money is going. That paired with inflated ambitions (producing too much product for their markets or creating too much work for themselves) and a lack of education can spell failure.

For the past three years, the NOFA-NH Journeyperson Program has been funded by the Beginning Farmer and Rancher Development Program of the United States Department of Agriculture. That's not the case this year, as the farm bill hasn't passed to include money for the program. Conner said she doesn't know where money will be shifted to fund the program yet, but the program certainly will not be dropped.

NOFA-NH is also accepting applications for its 2014 Mentorship program, which Connors affectionately called, "mentorship light." It is designed for pre-commercial farmers who have some on-farm experience or are starting their own farms. It doesn't offer a stipend and follows a more relaxed mentorship model, but connects people with experienced farmers who offer education, guidance, moral support and encouragement.

Programs like NOFA-NH that offer farmers a true community are essential to the industry, said Morris, who recently moved to South Carolina.

"If I hadn't had the Journeyperson program behind me, I may have thrown in the towel and ran away screaming and crying," she said. "It's very different without NOFA. Here there is almost no organic farming networks. The only thing I found is about three and a half hours away in another state. The work that NOFA does is altering the face of New Hampshire agriculture." 🌱

Family matters

Working toward shelter for homeless families



The new Family Place Shelter will serve as an emergency shelter and a comprehensive research center.

By Rebecca Fishow
rlfishow@gmail.com

For Manchester families transitioning from homelessness to permanent housing, the options for temporary living are slim. They can double up on friends' couches, or they can try to land a room at Manchester Emergency Housing, the city's only homeless shelter that admits families. But MEH has room for only seven families and it's full 100 percent of the time, so families are often turned away.

That's why it's crucial to build and open Family Place Shelter, said Michele Talwani, director of economic development and marketing at Families in Transition, located in Manchester, Concord and Dover. It's a new emergency

shelter specifically designed for families in transition, which is the fastest-growing segment of the homeless population. New Hampshire Housing's Board of Directors recently approved \$750,000 in funding toward the new facility.

"It will be a larger, more comprehensive facility. It will not just be a place where people can lay their heads. It will be a resource facility," Talwani said.

The length of time people spend living at the shelter will determine how many people can be serviced, said Jane Law, director of communications at New Hampshire Housing Finance Authority.

She said the shelter will offer 12 single-occupancy rooms with private bathrooms. Often shelters have communal bathrooms and sleeping spaces.

"Basically you have no private space,"

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Law said. "So you've got no space to put your stuff that's private, no space to lock it up, because that space is not yours."

In these situations, people must take their belongings with them when they leave the shelter or risk having them stolen. There's also a safety concern for kids, Talwani said.

"For [residents] to have access to their own locked bedroom as a family is the safest and best way to house them short-term until they can find longer-term housing," she said.

Successful transition into permanent rental housing usually means shelter residents have found rental assistance or a job that can support them. While any shelter is a step up from living in a car or on the streets, Talwani said the new shelter will provide more services to better help people make successful transitions out of the shelter.

Family Place will house a Head Start daycare program through Southern New Hampshire Services, Inc., a health clinic operated by Mobile Community Health Team, a food pantry with commercial kitchen and an intake center.

A lack of affordable rental housing is a major player in driving up homelessness rates for families.

During the recession, more homeowners were forced into the rental market as a result of foreclosures. The recession also stalled or halted the construction of new rental properties in the area. All this has driven vacancies down and rental rates up. The average rent for a two-bedroom apartment in Manchester has increased 182 percent since 1995 from \$573 to \$1,041 per month, According to the 2013 New Hampshire Housing Finance Authority Survey.

"New rental units have not kept pace with needs," Talwani said.

Funding for the new emergency shelter has come from a combination of private donors and \$500,000 from the New Hampshire Community Development Finance Authority's tax credit program. Families in Transition is now in the process of selling those tax credits to businesses.

"Our goal is to sell all tax credits and raise enough money to start construction in June," Talwani said. 🐾

WHAT THE BILL

HOUSE BILL 146: Increased I-93 speed limit

Drivers cruising through one of the state's most scenic areas can roll a little faster thanks to House Bill 146, which went into effect as a law on Jan. 1.

The speed limit has been raised to 70 mph on Interstate 93 from mile marker 45, between exits 17 and 18, to the Vermont border. The only exception is the stretch of highway in the Franconia Notch area, which remains set at 45 mph. The change follows Maine's increase of a portion of Interstate 95 north of Bangor to 75 mph in 2011.

State Representative Karen Umberger submitted the bill as a reaction to her own experiences driving around the country, she said. She observed that many of the more populated states have a 70 mph speed limit in rural areas, and she also researched accident statistics.

"I thought perhaps maybe I could get a bill through," she said.

In the past, other bills that attempted to raise the speed limit also included raises on

Interstate-89. But those bills were killed because it quickly became apparent that that highway was unsafe for the change due to its layout. Umberger did not support those bills or include I-89 in her own, she said.

It's too early to tell what kind of impact, if any, the speed increase will have on collision rates, but the New Hampshire Department of Safety opposed the bill when it was proposed, said Earl Sweeney, the department's assistant commissioner.

"Everybody expects to go faster than the speed limit anyways so if you have 65, people push it a bit. When you go to 70, they push it that much further," he said.

Extra speed in itself isn't the potential problem, he said. Disparity in speed is the largest cause of collisions. The state's minimum speed is 45, and big trucks, elderly people and people concerned with gas efficiency sometimes drive closer to that rate. The increased speed limit could mean more powerful collisions.

"The benefit is simply the fact that people can drive 70 to get from here to there in a little less time," Umberger said. "It's not a great time saver. ... It was the average speed people drive anyways."

It takes a driver traveling a distance of 100 miles at 65 mph 92 minutes to get from point A to point B. At 70 mph, the drive would take 86 minutes.

— Rebecca Fishow 🐾

Excelling in ‘American Jungle’

Building connections among NH’s diverse residents

Honore Murenzi, founder and director of New American Africans, received the 2014 Martin Luther King Award Jan. 20 at the annual Martin Luther King Day Community Celebration in Manchester. Murenzi immigrated to New Hampshire from Africa in 2001, speaking very little English. He learned quickly about the many problems that face the state’s immigrants and refugees and began to devote his time to providing them with resources and education.

Q: *Why did you come to New Hampshire?*

I came to New Hampshire in 2001 from Rwanda and I came as an immigrant. I think I was tired of living there, and what I was doing was very hard. I was working with orphans, and it was very tough for me and I wanted to go away from that, and the only way to go away from that was to leave the country. When I left, the country was very bad. The government was rebirthing the country after genocide. So everything was rebuilding communities. Everything was difficult.

When you first came to New Hampshire, what did you think of it?

I didn’t know that New Hampshire was a state, and I had a friend who was working at a university in Boston. ... So I was happy to go to Boston because I knew history about the Kennedys and everything. I wanted to go to Boston. But when he picked me up at the airport he was living in Manchester. He drove me to Manchester, so I am still thinking that I was in Boston. At that time he picked me up to go to my apartment in Laconia, and I was still thinking it was in Boston. Within two weeks I saw New Hampshire, New Hampshire, New Hampshire on signs everywhere. I looked on the computer and I found that I was in a new state. ... I wished to be in a small city, so it worked well.

What influenced you to create the New American Africans?

I had seen people, refugees, with many difficulties adapting to the culture, to the system. ... With my friends I saw how it was hard for people who don’t speak English. It was hard to forge through. I thought it could be good if we are together to help each other. That’s what we did. ... I began to go to welfare department, schools, anywhere we could help.

Five favorites

Favorite food: African food. Fufu, and beans and meat.

Favorite type of music: Christian

Favorite book: A Bible

Favorite movie: No favorite. I like to see historical movies, or police movies.

Favorite thing about NH: I love New Hampshire lakes and mountains because sometimes they remind me of Africa.



Honore Murenzi

What type of work does NAA do?

Right now we have an after-school program in Manchester and Concord, and we help students to catch up to their peers because they come from [refugee] camps and a lot of times they don’t have school. ... When they come here they are put into classrooms according to their age. We try to help them catch up to their peers, but it’s always very difficult. But some do. We also have ESL for parents, to teach parents English and also to count, to recognize the money. We do cooking classes in school, in health centers. Everywhere they need us, if we can help, we do.

What was the biggest challenge about adjusting to New Hampshire?

My first thing was English communication was very difficult. I had a dictionary and was walking with it. Sometimes I didn’t know how to pronounce a word to somebody, so I would show the words in English ... and then I knew, OK, that’s the word. My dictionary, I still have it. There was also the way New England people communicate. They don’t speak. When they don’t know you they don’t say anything, so it’s isolating to newcomers. In other countries, people say, ‘Oh, how are you?’ But here it’s very challenging. People are very kind, but it takes time to open up. The system is very difficult. ... The American system is a jungle, I used to say. America is a jungle. ... People say you come from a jungle of Africa, but here it’s a worse jungle. I think things were very, very hard for me.

What about Dr. King’s message is important to you?

Everything. He is the guy who was there to talk about freedom about equality because we are human beings created the same. It’s not about race. We are equal: white, black, yellow. So it depends on how you educate people, but we can be equal. We can do the same things and we can make the world better if there is equality. He is one of my heros.

— Rebecca Fishow

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NEWS & NOTES

QUALITY OF LIFE INDEX

Internship website launched

New Hampshire college students now have an easier way to look for internships. The Business and Industry Association of New Hampshire paired up with internships.com to launch a free website with the goal of creating better connections between college students and businesses. Adrienne Rupp, vice president of communications at the Business and Industry Association, told the Concord Monitor the site runs the gamut of opportunities available in different fields and there is no requirement in terms of type of internship or field.

QOL Score: +1

Comment: *Kudos for an easier way for young workers to search through the internship jungle. Best of luck to them in finding a company that pays its interns.*

Widespread STEM jobs

Last week New Hampshire Employment Security released a series of charts showing how Science, Technology, Engineering and Math — or STEM — jobs are distributed across various industries, NHPR reported. They show that securing a degree in software development doesn't necessarily mean you will be employed by a software company. Manufacturing companies hire 570 of New Hampshire's software engineers. STEM jobs are the state's fastest-growing sector of the job market.

QOL Score: +1

Comment: *Health occupations are the strongest sector of STEM jobs, outpacing the overall job market by 10 percent, NHPR reported.*

Bumpy travels

Last week, transportation officials shut down lanes on the Spaulding Turnpike to fix potholes caused by strange weather this winter, namely intense cold and rapid thawing. On Thursday, this closure caused a backup on Route 16 South that stretched from Newington to beyond the Dover tolls, a distance of two miles, according to wmur.com. The DOT said about 10 to 15 percent of state roads are having pothole problems.

QOL Score: -1

Comment: *QOL also thinks this weather is annoying because, as of late, it's been causing foggy, hard-to-see commutes. Can't we get a break from tough driving conditions?*

Vandalism at the clock tower

According to the Concord Monitor, police were investigating possible vandalism at the historic clock tower on North Main Street, Concord, last week after a cab driver noticed that one of the tower's glass panels had been shattered. The New Hampshire Historical Society owns the clock tower just outside Eagle Square and has insurance to cover some of the repair cost, the article stated, but there were no witnesses and theories are still speculative. The clock itself wasn't damaged, but the shards of broken glass have been replaced by plywood board.

QOL Score: -1

Comment: *Vandals, if you're reading: What did that old clock ever do to you?*

QOL score: 56

Net change: 0

QOL this week: 56

What's affecting your Quality of Life here in New Hampshire? Let us know at news@hippopress.com.

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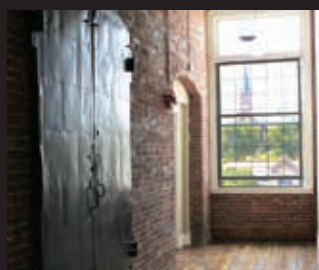
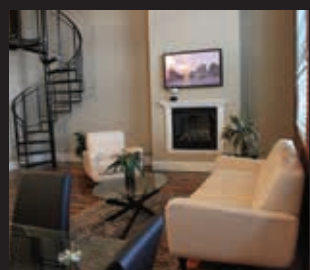
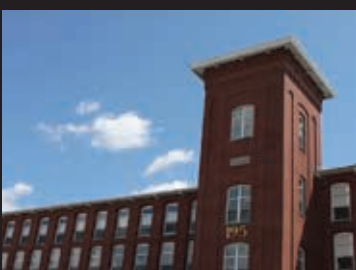
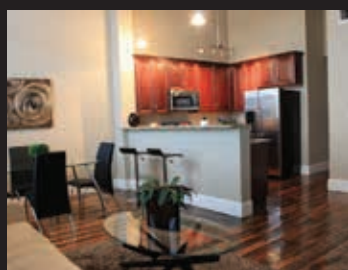
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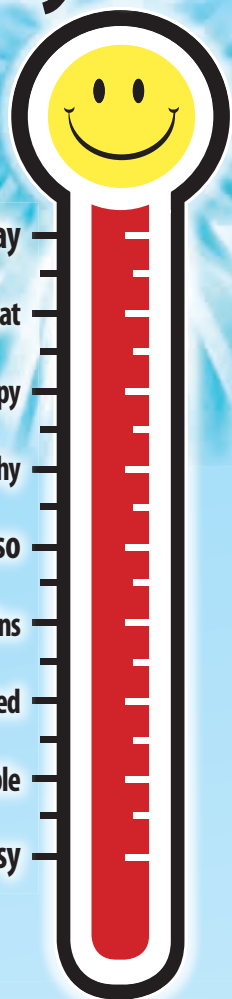
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SPORTS DAVE LONG'S LONGSHOTS



Satisfied with Pats' season

The clock struck 12 on the Patriots' Super Bowl aspirations with a 26-16 loss in Denver on Sunday. They were done in by an "I'm afraid of **Peyton Manning**" defensive game plan that led to

Peyton killing them with a thousand cuts because the coaches were afraid he might beat them with a few big strikes instead. While that approach is infuriating, I wasn't that bothered by the loss — and not just because there's no proof my desire to blitz Manning silly to force mistakes would have worked. I wanted them to win, of course, but I was satisfied with what they already had achieved. I don't know if I root differently than everyone else, but I can say I'm not one who considers a season successful only if it ends with a championship. I can see how a player might think that way, as **Larry Bird** famously did back in the day. But if a fan does, a lot of failed seasons will pile up before their team is "successful," because with 32 NFL teams, one city has to go at least 32 years without one.

In the case of Cleveland it's been 49 since that football-hungry region last won. I hope Browns fans in 1964 weren't too ho-hum about what was their "latest" title, because that would be a cautionary tale to those around who don't quite get how great we have it. You see the Browns basically were the New England Patriots of their day. They had a great and innovative coach in **Paul Brown**, **Otto Graham** was the best QB of his era, and in their 10 years together they won five All American Football Conference titles before the AAFC merged with the NFL, then three times after that, and the two times they didn't win they lost in the championship game. A year after Otto left the building, in came the great **Jimmy Brown** and they were a threat to win every year until he retired in 1966. And while they got close twice under **Marty Schottenheimer** in the '80s, they've won squat since and even lost their team to Baltimore before getting one back three years later.

Since I know that story, I base the notion of success on how hard a team plays, its grit in the face of adversity and how much it achieves in relation to what I think is reasonable to achieve. The 2013 Patriots get a check in all those boxes and here's why:

Toughness: Every team gets killed by injuries, but what separates good teams from bad ones is how they deal with them. The Patriots are always next man up, like in 2008 when they won 11 games despite seeing **Tom Brady** go down 15 plays into the season. This year they won 13 times as key players kept going down, starting with the **Aaron Hernandez** drama. That's to be admired.

The Players: Glue players exemplify what it takes to win. Brady's a star, but he's one, especially this year while holding them together in the most trying times. So is **Rob Ninkovich**, who's always around the ball, always makes big plays and always gets the most out of his ability. They had a lot of guys like that.

Adaptability: Coach B won with a great D while dinking and dunking in 2001, similarly in '03 and '04 as Brady earned a more central role. They flung it all over going 16-0 in '07 and with an unstoppable offense and no defense between 2010 and 2012. This year they were back to ground-and-pound and won 12 times after expecting to be a throw-first team. Of all the great coaches I've seen, only **Don Shula** did what Coach B does: win with a style based on the players he has at the moment, rather than with a "system."

Coaching: The real sign of good coaching is that the team is better at the end of the year than in the beginning, and the Patriots never fade. The record in December is astronomically good and it's because the coach, with all his quirks, always keeps making them better.

With 2013 in the books, what lies ahead?

The Brass: **Bill Belichick** the coach was let down by **Bill Belichick** the GM in 2013. True, the roster had a lot of tough players and he had a decent draft. **Logan Ryan** and **Jamie Collins** look like solid future players, while **Duron Harmon**, **Aaron Dobson** and **Josh Boyce** had their moments. But the complete turnover in the receiving core was just too much. Gronk being hurt wasn't his fault, and neither was the Hernandez situation. But going with no names and rookies on the outside was a bust. As was **Wes Welker** for **Danny Amendola** over a measly million bucks — punctuated by Amendola's clutch NO catches for NO yards on Sunday. And please don't say **Julian Edelman** had 105 catches. He sat in free agency for over a month before signing a minimum deal — so that was completely lucky. Let's see if they cheap out again, or give him the money and cut Amendola to get someone who can deliver on the outside. Ditto with **Danny Woodhead** — who was excellent in San Diego. **Shane Vereen** was a legit replacement, but he missed nine games with injuries and Danny never did that. And while improved, the defense still needs a monster who's in the QB's face all game long.

Bottom Line: My griping about the pass rush aside, they still won 13 times and made the playoffs for the 11th time in the Brady-Belichick era. And while there won't be a Super Bowl win for a 10th straight year, they gave folks something to follow deep into January. As they'll tell you in Cleveland, things could be a lot worse.

Email Dave Long at dlong@hippopress.com.

Central downs Trinity to stay undefeated

The Big Story: Round II in the Central Trinity battles went to Central on Sunday in the continuation of a game postponed last month with the score tied at 13-13. It went to the Green 77-60 thanks to a big-time 34-point performance by **Jon Martin** and a huge 43-25 second-half advantage. Trying to beat Central is turning out to be a pick-your-poison affair for Trinity, who got hit for 38 large by **Brett Hanson** when they lost to Central 66-55 in the QCIBT. The win moves Central to 9-0 overall, as Trinity dropped to 5-1.

Sports 101: on this date in 1981 **Fred Lynn** was traded to the California Angels. Who did the Red Sox get back in the trade?

Astonishing Score of the Week: There are routs and then there are routs, and Pinkerton's 61-3 thumping of Timberlane qualifies as the latter. **Valerie Martin** with 14 was high for the undefeated Astros, with **Sara McLeman** next with 8.

Girls' Fantasy Player of the Week: It goes to Memorial's **MaKenah Grisson**, whose impressive defensive-oriented stat sheet included eight points and the whopping rebound and block shot totals of 16 boards and seven swats. Runner-up in a

close battle was Bishop Guertin's **Jamie Sherburne**, who had a game-high 24 points to go along with seven assists and five steals in the Cardinals' 69-32 thumping of Keene.

The Numbers: Last week it was the Central boys who had a 30-4 thumping of Exeter in one quarter; this week the Memorial girls did it to Concord on Friday. Their 30-4 blitz came in the third quarter to turn a relatively close game into a 76-34 runaway. As usual **Angie Marazzi** and **Makenah Grisson** were in the middle of everything for the 5-1 Crusaders, with Marazzi scoring a game-high 31 points AND handing out nine assists, while Grisson had 27 points AND 21 rebounds.

Sports 101 Answer: The Sox got lefty hurler **Frank Tanana** and left fielder **Joe Rudi** for Fred Lynn.

On This Date, Jan. 23: 1965 Bill Russell bricks all 14 shots in a loss to **Wilt Chamberlain** and Philadelphia. **Born:** 1972 **Tanya Harding**, Australian softball player, **Nancy Kerrigan's** best friend. **Died:** 1997 **Laura "Dinky" Patterson**, while bungee jumping at a Super Bowl rehearsal. ☁

The Numbers

0 – goals allowed by **Steve Tempesta** in a 3-0 win over Oyster River to give him three on the year as Bedford moved to 7-0.

6 – wins without a loss for the Pinkerton girls' basketball team after a 61-36 win over Spaulding when **Valerie (my favorite) Martin** and **Kayla Stacy** shared game-high honors with 12 points apiece.

29 – game-high points from **Cam Meserve** when Bedford finally broke through for its first win, 55-52 over Alvirne, after a surreal run of seven straight losses by three points or less.

31 – combined points from **Pat Welch** (22) and **Kafani Williams** (19), who also added 12 as Pembroke stayed undefeated with a 59-47 win over Hollis/Brookline.

95 – combined points scored by **Trevon Maughn** (25 and 33) and **Kabongo Ngalukulond** (18 and 19) in 89-49 and 90-71 wins over Dover and Concord respectively last week.

100 – games now played at UNH for Nashua alum **Kelsey Hogan** in a 61-56 win over Hartford on Saturday when she chipped in 11 points and handed out a season-high seven assists as the U's winning streak hit 5. ☁

Sports Glossary

The 1964 Cleveland Browns: They were 10-3-1 and heavy underdogs to Baltimore led by 34-year-old headman **Don Shula**. While the Browns were led by Hall of Famer **Jim Brown**, the star was flanker/punter **Gary Collins**, who caught three TD passes in the 27-0 route.

Don Shula: Winner of a most-ever 347 games and took teams with four different quarterbacks to the Super Bowl. The only knock was the lackluster record in the big game, where he was just 2-5 in NFL title games included four SB losses.

Marty Schottenheimer: The 5-13 playoff record is what most detractors hang their hats on, but he won a sixth-best all-time 200 games and turned around franchises in Cleveland, KC and San Diego, and would have done it in Washington if **Dan the Fan** weren't such a dope. He also got fired by the equally dimwitted **AJ Smith** in San Diego after going 14-2 in 2007.

Paul Brown: Autocratic coach who invented the draw play, game films, classroom study, the face mask and "messenger" guards to bring in plays on every down. He was 158-48-8 with the Cleveland Browns but was fired amid building tension with owner **Art Modell** in 1962. Got revenge by founding the AFL expansion Cincinnati Bengals, who've gone two Super Bowls since the Browns last won. His coaching tree includes Shula, four-time SB champ **Chuck Noll** and **Weeb Eubank**, who won twice with Baltimore and beat Shula in the greatest upset ever with the Jets in Super Bowl III.

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It's the final week of the Hippo's four-part Look Good, Feel Great series, and this week we're talking Winter Olympic sports — specifically skiing, snowboarding, curling and figure skating — and how to get started if you've never picked up a ski pole or laced up a pair of skates before.

In fact, three dedicated Hippo reporters went out and risked making fools of themselves on the slopes or on ice, trying a sport for the first time in the name of good journalism. Emelia Attridge shed some tears on the bunny slope but kindly shares her skiing sob story so others can learn from her mistakes. Kaitlin Joseph had better luck with her first attempt at snowboarding, picking up good tips for beginners, and Rebecca Fishow tried her hand at curling with a local enthusiast who showed her what that mysterious winter sport is all about. And finally, Kelly Sennott stayed on solid ground when interviewing adults who started figure skating later in life — Kelly used to figure skate competitively, so we won't hold it against her for not getting out on the ice herself.

So instead of just watching the Olympics this year (the games begin Friday, Feb. 7), go ahead and give a new sport a try. Just remember that taking lessons and getting advice from professionals is crucial — or else you risk crying your way down the bunny slope.

Snowboard extraordinaire?

First-time adventures on a slippery slope

By Kaitlin Joseph
kjoseph@hippopress.com

I was face down in the snow. I'd long since forgotten how many times I'd fallen. I tried to think back to what Travis had told me that morning. What *did* he tell me? It made sense when he was there, but now my mind was a jumble of

snowboarding jargon.

I picked myself up and looked down the rest of the bunny hill at Pats Peak. It seemed endless.

That morning, I had started on the beginner's hill with Travis Wampler, my instructor. I was going to learn how to snowboard. To be honest, I actually thought I might be pretty good at it. Being a competitive runner throughout

high school and college, I thought I'd have the athleticism and muscle to pull it off.

While Travis was finishing up a lesson with a boy half my age, Joe Valley, the snowboard manager at Pats Peak, was whisking me through the lodge, handing me boots, a helmet and, eventually, a snowboard. Joe led me to the beginner's hill and helped me get acquainted

with the snowboard, naming its parts and spouting off technical information that he might as well have been saying in Portuguese.

Then I was handed off to Travis, who wasted no time strapping one foot in the bindings. After determining I was "goofy" (a snowboarding term for riders who ride with their right foot forward — not a judgment on my character), Travis

MANCHESTER MONARCHS

STANLEY CUP CHAMPIONS AREN'T BORN...
THEY'RE MADE IN NEW HAMPSHIRE!



LA KINGS NIGHT

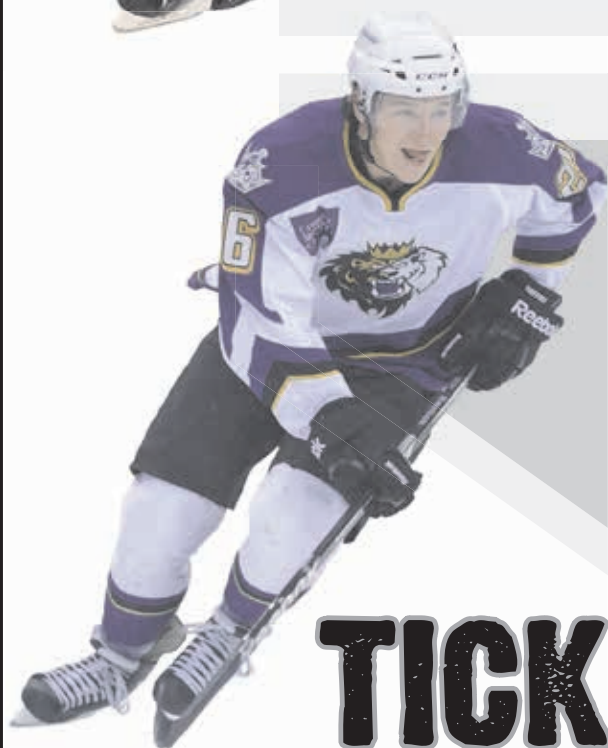


VS



**SATURDAY, JANUARY 25
7:00 PM**

- The first 2,000 fans will receive a Los Angeles Kings Skate Bank, courtesy of St. Mary's Bank!
- See the Manchester Monarchs in specialty Los Angeles Kings jerseys that were voted on by fans!
- One fan will have the chance to shoot to win \$10,000 from Papa John's Pizza during the second intermission!



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088977

YOUR HEALTH



President's own story: 15 years ago I started to have joint discomfort, frequent bathroom trips, kidney, snoring and manly issues. Now I take natural products to support my health and I'm glad I discovered them. Since then I have made it my life's purpose to help others. **Nick A. Jerch**

Shape and Health Supplement #5SH



The main ingredient is ocean kelp extract. This is the most effective botanical we know for reducing hunger in general especially for sweets of all kinds. This ocean kelp helps us to be more selective in eating more USDA recommended non-fattening alkaline food (vegetables, salads, legumes, fruit, berries, mushrooms) and decrease acidic food (meat, fish, shellfish, bread, noodles, rice,

eggs, cheese, nuts, potatoes, french fries or other junk food). Just change a few eating habits for long term weight management. If your blood sugar is unbalanced consider adding Bell Blood Sugar Metabolism #40. It is hard to manage weight if the blood sugar is out of line.

■ **It seemed to naturally curb my appetite.** Bell Shape & Health gave me extra energy for workouts. I have managed my weight well for the last 3 months. I have recommended Bell Shape & Health to my family and friends. I will definitely keep on taking it. Latoya Daniela Scotte 29, Shuterville, SC.*

Clear Skin from within!

Bell Clear Skin (Bell Product #60) helps you maintain healthy skin from within, simply by cleansing the blood instead of attacking the skin topically with creams or washes. This only makes sense, since the skin is an elimination organ. Typically, you can see how it benefits your skin within days. Many people wrote that they were surprised how quickly they had amazing results. There are lots of testimonials from everyday people on our website.*



■ **Last couple of years I tried everything.** Results were unbelievable. I have beautiful skin again. Thanks for giving back my self-esteem. Nelisa Royer, 28, Doral, FL ■ **My mom bought (Bell Product #60).** I was skeptical. It did work quickly and better than anything else. Christopher Seraphin, 14, Brooklyn, NY. * ■ **It worked.** I no longer have to hide at home, because I was ashamed to be seen. Agnes Casillas, 60, New York, NY* ■ **Can wear dresses again** that are backless. My skin looks fantastic. Thank you from the bottom of my heart. Yvette Maclean, 40, Lodi, CA *

Snoring?



Here is proof that snoring can be corrupting your health and your marriage. Three out of 10 couples are considering divorce because of snoring says a major magazine article. You are not alone! An official survey says 48% of all people snore. 75% are affected, if you add non-snoring husbands that have snoring wives or vice versa. Snoring is caused by slack muscles in the throat. A common complaint is that people feel that they are not

well rested in the morning. Many people wrote they are now sleeping like babies. Their partners are delighted.* ■ **College professor had lack of good sleep with many interruptions** for last 8 years that made her tired during the day. Within 3 days of taking Bell Sound Sleep (Bell Product#23) the snoring stopped.* I wake up feeling refreshed and energized. I can concentrate in a focused, happy manner. I feel delighted with this natural product. Dr. Anele E. Heiges, 77, New York, NY * ■ **My life changed. Sleep now 7-8 hours.** I am a retired college professor and author of books. I have no more need to nap during the day. Nothing I tried helped until I started Bell Sound Sleep. I am so delighted with this product I would like to make motivational speeches to help others. Carmen V. Caruso, 66, Ann Arbor, MI *

100% Truthful testimonials with full name and towns. Real people you can call, if you want more reassurance. More testimonials on the Bell website. No money is paid for testimonials.

*** These statements have not been evaluated by the Food and Drug Administration. This product is not intended to diagnose, treat, cure or prevent any disease.**

■ **AVAILABLE IN MANCHESTER:** Bonne Sante Natural Foods, 425 Mast Rd. ■ **CONCORD:** Granite State Natural Foods, 164 N State St; Granite State Pharmacy, 5 Clinton St. ■ **NASHUA:** Nashua Nutrition 522 Amherst St; Performance Nutrition 210 Daniel Webster Hwy. ■ **SALEM:** Natural Marketplace, 471 S. Broadway #4. ■ **EPSOM:** Care Pharmacy of Epsom, Epsom Traffic Circle. ■ **WOLFEBORO FALLS:** Care Pharmacy of Wolfborough, 36 Center St ■ **MILFORD:** GNC Milford, 586 Nashua St. ■ **HAMPTON:** Hampton Natural Foods, 845 Lafayette Rd #1. ■ **PORTSMOUTH:** The Herbal Path, 1262 Woodbury Ave. ■ **LACONIA:** Sunflower Natural Foods, 390 South Main St. ■ **ROCHESTER:** Care Pharmacy of Rochester, 161 S Main St. ■ **DOVER:** Dover Natural Foods & Cafe, 7 Chestnut St.; The Herbal Path, 839 Central Ave. ■ **MEREDITH:** A Good Food Conspiracy North, 11 Main St; Lakes Region Nutrition Center, Meredith Shopping Center, State Route 25. ■ **LEBANON:** Lebanon Health Foods, 90 Hanover St.



Kaitlin Joseph falls on the bunny hill at Pats Peak.

locked my right foot into place.

I spent some time learning to side step with the awkward board attached to my leg before learning how the board moves down the slope. I learned which way to bend the board to turn and discovered that it takes a great deal of muscle in order to move the board in the direction you want to go.

While I was nervous about trying to put everything together, I felt like I understood what he told me. Then Travis moved me from flat ground to the middle of the hill so he could guide me into making some turns.

If you're wondering what I thought at this point, it's this: *"When I fall, I'm probably going to snap my leg since it's attached to this board and I'll need to be rushed to the hospital as soon as possible. I don't want to go to the hospital. Should I really do this?"*

Turns out, I was just fine, since Travis had my back at every turn. I didn't break any bones. As we progressed to the top of the hill, my fear subsided a little. It seemed I could sort of make the turns, though I couldn't quite figure out how to stop.

An hour was over in lightning time, and according to Travis I was now a Level 3 snowboarder. With that designation, I semi-confidently headed to the bunny hill for the rest of the afternoon.

Without Travis, I wouldn't have known where to begin. He's been an instructor at Pat's Peak for the last 10 years.

"The first goal is to the show them the board, then the bindings, make sure the boots are tight — that's a huge thing here — and figuring out which foot is dominant," Wampler said of the beginning stages of a lesson.

Wampler then runs through how to glide back and forth on one foot, how to do J turns, heel-side turns and toe-side turns and how to stop.

Lessons are taught in stages from Level 1 all the way to Level 9.

"The hardest thing is getting over the fear of riding," Wampler said. "I think the good thing about instructors is that you get pushed."

Snowboarding isn't easy; I've got the bumps and bruises to prove it. But I'm sort of hooked.

"There's nothing like being in the middle of the woods with snowy trees over you and not a single track in front of you," Wampler said. "That's the beauty of snow sports; you get the freedom to choose. It can take you anywhere, all over the world, as a job or as a hobby."

There's no way I'm the next Shaun White, but I'll keep trying and hopefully improving. For now, it's just me and the bunny hill. 🐰



Instructor Travis Wampler at Pats Peak with his snowboard. Kaitlin Joseph photo.



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WINTER 2014

MONDAY

COURSE	WKS	TIME	TUITION	EXTRA	DATE
Animation & Cartooning	4	7:00-9:00	\$79	\$25	1/13
Argentine Tango Beginner - QC*	8	6:15-7:15	\$124	-	1/27
Argentine Tango Beg 1 - JC*	5	6:00-7:00	\$77	-	1/13
Argentine Tango Beg 2 - JC*	5	6:00-7:00	\$77	-	3/3
Argentine Tango Intermed 1- JC*	5	7:00-8:00	\$77	-	1/13
Argentine Tango Intermed 2- JC*	5	7:00-8:00	\$77	-	3/3
Chair Caning	6	6:00-8:30	\$129	varies	1/13
Fly-Tying for Beginners	5	6:00-8:30	\$89	varies	1/13
French 1 ~ Level 2	8	7:00-8:30	\$129	book	1/13
French 3 ~ Level 2	8	5:30-7:00	\$129	-	1/13
Growing Shiitake Mushrooms	1	6:00-9:00	\$29	-	2/24
Gluten Free Living	1	6:00-8:30	\$24	-	2/10
Gourmet Vegan (Total Vegetarian) Cooking: Register for 1 or more classes					
•Class #1	1	6:00-9:00	\$29	\$14	1/13
•Class #2	1	6:00-9:00	\$29	\$14	2/3
•Class #3	1	6:00-9:00	\$29	\$14	3/3
•Class #4	1	6:00-9:00	\$29	\$14	4/7
Knitting & Crocheting 1	10	7:00-9:00	\$144	varies	1/13
Landscape Your Home	8	6:00-9:00	\$144	-	1/13
Stock Market w/Tony Hartigan	3	6:00-7:30	\$35	-	1/13
Violin Made Easy	10	6:30-8:00	\$129	\$15bk/35rental	1/13
Watercolor	8	7:30-9:30	\$137	varies	1/13
Yoga	10	5:30-6:30	\$99	-	1/13

NOTE: *QC = Queen City Ballroom - Randy Avis ~ *JC = Jim Clapp

WEDNESDAY

COURSE	WKS	TIME	TUITION	EXTRA	DATE
Archery	4	6:00-7:00	\$74	-	1/15
Ballroom Dance I	8	6:00-7:00	\$124/cpl	-	1/29
Ballroom Dance II	8	7:00-8:00	\$124/cpl	-	1/29
Swing/Night Club Two-Step	8	8:00-9:00	\$124/cpl	-	1/29
Biology w/Lab (HS Credit)	15	5:30-8:30	\$425	\$100	2/12
French Adv. Conversation	8	5:30-7:00	\$129	-	1/15
Italian 2 ~ Level 1	10	6:00-7:30	\$135	-	1/15
Knitting & Crocheting 2	10	7:00-9:00	\$144	varies	1/15
Learn to do Voice Overs	1	7:00-9:00	\$40	-	4/16
Meditation for Life	10	6:00-7:30	\$148	-	1/15
Organic Gardening	1	6:00-9:00	\$29	-	1/22
Pen & Ink Drawing Techniques	8	7:30-9:30	\$137	varies	1/15
Photography: The Next Step	10	6:00-8:30	\$174	-	1/15
Piano 1	8	7:20-8:35	\$124	\$9	1/15
Piano 2	8	6:15-7:15	\$106	-	1/15
Rubber Stamping: Register for 1 or more classes					
•Class #1 - Stampin' Techniques	1	6:00-9:00	\$29	\$5	1/8
•Class #2 - Stampin' Techniques	1	6:00-9:00	\$29	\$5	1/29
•Class #3 - Stampin' Gifts	1	6:00-9:00	\$29	\$8	2/12
•Class #4 - Man Cards	1	6:00-9:00	\$29	\$5	3/5
Russian 1 ~ Level 1	10	7:00-9:00	\$144	\$35	1/15
Russian 1 ~ Level 2	10	5:00-7:00	\$144	book	1/15
Sign Language 1	8	6:00-7:30	\$129	\$34	1/15
Small Engine Repair	8	7:00-9:00	\$134	\$12	1/15
Ukrainian Egg Decorating	2	6:00-7:30	\$34	varies	1/29
Yoga	10	3:30-4:30	\$99	-	1/15



COMPUTER CLASSES

EMPLOYEES & EMPLOYERS: We can bill your company directly (call for details). We can also customize any class and schedule it at your convenience.

Courses for those with limited experience/knowledge:

\$95 Basic Computer Skills	6:00-9:00	Jan. 6, 7
\$195 Introduction to Personal Computer	6:00-9:00	Jan. 13, 14, 15, 16
\$195 Introduction to Windows	6:00-9:00	Jan. 27, 28, 29, 30

Word Processing:

\$195 MS-Word ~ Level 2	6:00-9:00	Feb. 17, 18, 19, 20
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DataBase:

\$195 Ms-Access ~ Level 2	6:00-9:00	Feb. 10, 11, 12, 13
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Graphic Presentation:

\$195 PhotoShop ~ Level 1	6:00-9:00	Mar. 4, 5, 11, 12
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\$195 PowerPoint ~ Level 1	6:00-9:00	Mar. 10, 11, 12, 13
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Internet:

\$25 Research Your Antiques-Collectables	6:00-7:00	March 4
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\$25 Finding Savings Online	6:00-7:00	January 22
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\$25 Free Software Application	6:00-7:00	February 5
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\$25 Free PostSecondary Ed/Training Online	6:00-7:00	February 12
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\$150 Introduction to eBay	6:00-8:00	Mar. 5, 12, 19, 26
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Misc:

\$150 MS-Office Overview	6:00-8:00	Jan. 22, 29, Feb. 5, 12
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Spreadsheet:

\$195 MS-Excel ~ Level 2	6:00-9:00	Feb. 3, 4, 5, 6
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Financial:

\$195 QuickBooks ~ Level 1	6:00-9:00	Mar. 3, 4, 5, 6
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TUESDAY

COURSE	WKS	TIME	TUITION	EXTRA	DATE
Algebra 1 (HS Credit)	15	5:30-8:30	\$425	\$100	2/11
Basic Car Maintenance	8	6:00-8:00	\$128	-	1/14
Bread Making	6	6:00-8:30	\$139	\$25	1/14
Calligraphy for Beginners	4	6:15-7:45	\$64	varies	1/14
Calligraphy Projects	3	6:15-7:45	\$49	varies	2/11
Craft Workshops: Register for 1 or more classes					
•Zentangle	1	6:00-9:00	\$29	varies	1/21
•Painting on Glass	1	6:00-9:00	\$29	varies	2/4
•Decorated Treasure Box	1	6:00-9:00	\$29	varies	2/18
•Decorated Grapevine Wreath	1	6:00-9:00	\$29	varies	3/11
Craft of the Green Wiccan:	10	6:00-8:00	\$144	\$10	1/14
The Wise Woman/Man's Way					
Demystifying Medicare-LTC Insurance	6	7:00-8:00	\$54	-	1/14
Drawing for Beginners	8	7:30-9:30	\$137	varies	1/14
Gardening:					
•Starting Seeds Indoors	1	6:00-9:00	\$29	-	1/21
•Growing in High Tunnels	1	6:00-9:00	\$29	-	2/25
German 1 ~ Level 2	10	5:00-6:00	\$99	-	1/14
German 2 ~ Level 2	10	6:00-7:00	\$99	-	1/14
Italian Adv Conversation	10	6:00-7:30	\$135	-	1/14
Jewelry Metal Casting	8	6:30-8:30	\$137	\$60	1/14
Reiki I	3	6:00-9:00	\$79	-	1/14
Reiki II	3	6:00-9:00	\$89	-	2/4
Spanish 1 Level 3	10	6:00-7:30	\$149	\$26	1/14
Sign Language 1 Continuing	8	6:00-7:30	\$129	-	1/14
Tai Chi ~ Beginner	6	5:30-6:30	\$59	-	1/14
Tai Chi ~ Introduction	4	4:15-5:15	\$39	-	1/14

THURSDAY

COURSE	WKS	TIME	TUITION	EXTRA	DATE
Acrylic Painting ~ Still Life	8	7:30-9:30	\$137	varies	1/16
Amateur Music Ensemble Preview	1	6:00-7:30	Free	-	12/12
Amateur Music Ensemble	10	7:30-9:00	\$129	-	1/16
Ballroom Dance Intermediate	8	6:00-7:00	\$124/cpl	-	1/30
Ballroom Dance Advanced	8	7:00-8:00	\$124/cpl	-	1/30
Ballroom Performing Fun/Show	8	8:00-9:00	\$124/cpl	-	1/30
French Style Cooking	1	6:00-9:00	\$29	\$14	3/27
Gardening:					
•Selling at Farmers Market	1	6:00-9:00	\$29	-	1/23
•Grow Peppers & Tomatoes	1	6:00-9:00	\$29	-	2/27
Hypnosis Beginner	3	6:00-7:30	\$49	-	1/16
Hypnosis Advanced	3	6:00-7:30	\$49	-	2/6
Hypnosis:	3	6:00-7:00	\$44	-	2/27
Stress Reduction & Relaxation					
Indian Cuisine Cooking: Register for 1 or more classes					
•Class #1	1	6:00-9:00	\$29	\$14	1/16
•Class #2	1	6:00-9:00	\$29	\$14	1/30
•Class #3	1	6:00-9:00	\$29	\$14	2/13
•Class #4	1	6:00-9:00	\$29	\$14	2/27
•Class #5	1	6:00-9:00	\$29	\$14	3/13
Laughter is the Best	1	6:30-7:30	\$19	-	2/20
Native People of	6	6:30-8:30	\$119	-	1/16
New England: Pre-Contact to Present					
Rug Braiding	10	7:00-9:00	\$174	\$60+	1/23
Spanish 1 ~ Level 2	10	6:00-7:30	\$149	book	1/16
Using a Digital SLR Camera	10	6:00-8:30	\$174	-	1/16
Vibrant Health Series: Register for 1 or more classes					
•Detox 101	1	6:30-8:30	\$24	-	1/16
•Healthy Green Smoothies	1	6:30-8:30	\$24	\$10	2/6
•Weigh Less, Live More	1	6:30-8:30	\$24	-	3/6
•Kick SUGAR	1	6:30-8:30	\$24	-	3/20

SATURDAY

COURSE	WKS	TIME	TUITION	EXTRA	DATE
Chemistry w/Lab (HS Credit)	15	9:00-Noon	\$425	\$100	2/15
Chinese Games - Majiang	3	12:00-2:00	\$55	\$5	2/15
Chinese Conversational Beg	6	9:00-10:30	\$85	\$15	1/25
Chinese Conversational Intermed	6	10:30-12:00	\$85	-	1/25
Defensive Driving Course	1	7:30-2:00	\$50	1/11 or 2/15 or 3/15	



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- Two people registering for different courses.

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- Senior Citizens (65& over) receive 25% discount off tuition only.

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5 EASY WAYS TO REGISTER

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Tell us the following:



The course, evening and time.
Your name, address, day & eve phone number. Your credit/debit card number and expiration date.



#2 REGISTER ONLINE

You can register right in the comfort of your home.
www.concordcommunityed.org

#3 BY MAIL:

Fill out the registration form and mail in with your check, money order or charge/debit card information to:

Concord Community Education
170 Warren Street, Concord, NH 03301.
email: class@concordnhschools.net



#4 WALK-INS • MON-THU

Our office is open to accept your registration Monday through Thursday, 7:00 am - 7:00 pm located off the



Auditorium Foyer in Concord High School,
170 Warren Street, Concord.

Registrations can be filled out and left under the door (in a sealed envelope) of the Community Education Office (with payment) any other time the school is open and we are not. Please do not leave cash!

#5 BY FAX • 225-0826

Fax registration form, with credit/debit card or business billing information.



REGISTRATION FORM • 2014 • TERM 2

Name _____

Day Phone _____

Eve Phone _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Course Title(s): _____

Course#1 _____

Course#2 _____

Course#3 _____

Course#4 _____

I have included an extra \$1

Tuition \$ _____ Extra \$ _____ Total \$ _____

For the scholarship fund _____

E-mail Address _____

FOR DEBIT OR CREDIT CARD PAYMENTS ONLY:
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Exp. Date _____

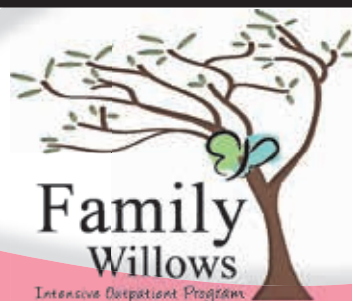
Signature _____

Name/Address of Card holder if different from above: _____

PHOTOCOPY THIS FORM IF NECESSARY

Refunds are granted fully if a course is canceled or requested before the second class meeting. Refunds are prorated if requests after the second class meeting and before 50% of all classes have met.

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This program is funded in part by the NH DHHS/Division of Community Based Care Services, Bureau of Drug and Alcohol Services.

088945

Healthy Hearing Tip By Dr. Beth Ann Jacques

Did You Know...

Vertigo (dizziness associated with a feeling of spinning or whirling) and tinnitus (ringing or other sounds in the ears that no one else can hear) can be associated with disorders of the ear and should not be ignored. An audiologist can perform most of the tests necessary to obtain more information about these symptoms and to help with treatment.



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088573

Bunny Slope blues

How to avoid the mistakes one beginner made



Emelia Attridge will aim to look like this next time she gets out on the slopes. Photo courtesy of Pats Peak.

By Emelia Attridge
eattridge@hippopress.com

Hey, ladies, take note

It turns out, this is common for many women who hit the slopes and use rental gear. The Ski Diva (theskidiva.com) is the leading online community for women who ski. Founder Wendy Clinch recommends visiting a professional boot fitter.

"Boots are a real big issue," she said. "Everybody loves to get skis, but boot shopping is just the pits. You really have to find someone you trust."

Within the past decade, the ski industry has started to make boots and skis just for women, with boots that have a narrower heel and foot and skis that are lighter and have forward mounting to account for a woman's hip angle, which is different than a man's.

Unfortunately, "It is expensive to buy all that equipment," Clinch said. "To get started you're better off renting. ... If you're going to rent at the mountain, you're kind of stuck renting whatever they have."

Women's achilles tendons are shorter than men's, which makes the calf lower in the boot, she said. If you are going to invest in your own equipment, "Find a woman's boot with a scalloped calf," she suggested, so that the boot is lower in the back than a man's boot. She also recommends that women stand up straight to support themselves skeletally instead of muscularly, since the forward mounting point can cause women to crouch instead of standing up straight (which will really do a number on your quads).

"A ski boot should not feel loose. It should feel like a firm handshake," she said.

I've lived in New England all my life, but I'd never been anywhere near a chairlift until last month. I'd always wanted to learn how to ski, so my dad (who was an avid skier before my brother and I were born) and I decided to spend some quality father-daughter time on the slopes. January, after all, is Learn to Ski and Snowboard month. Despite all the factors working in my favor as a first-time skier, I made a lot of mistakes.

Bunny slope blues

I was so impatient to start skiing, I mis-judged the fit of my ski boots. With nothing else to compare it to, I assumed my boots were just the right kind of tight, that the pain was normal. By the time I reached the top of the bunny slope, I realized I was very wrong. My boots morphed into tourniquets, my legs started to cramp, my calves were burning and my eyes began to well up. "Great," I thought, "I'm crying on the bunny slope."

With nowhere to go but down, I pointed my skis in that direction and tried to push past the pain as I made my first-ever attempt down a ski slope. For all I know I took out a kindergartener or two — it was hard to see past the tears. But there was a brief instant of uncontrolled skiing that almost felt like it could be fun, a surge of adrenaline not unlike sledding down the steepest hill in your neighborhood. I did, however, spend the rest of my time hanging out in the lodge, trying to get the blood circulating in my feet again and watching my dad zip down the mountain.

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Pats Peak Ski Area (686 Flanders Road, Henniker, 428-3245, patspeak.com)

- *For first-timers:* Check out the “Starter Special” for ages 6 and up (cost \$85), which includes a Beginner Group Lesson, rental equipment and full-day Lower Mountain lift ticket from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

- *Lessons for intermediate to advanced:* Check out “Lift and Lesson” package or the “Ski-er’s Package,” join a group lesson or make a reservation for private lessons depending on your skill level (prices vary; see website for details).

Gunstock Mountain Resort (719 Cherry Valley Road, Gilford, 293-4341, gunstock.com)

- *For first-timers:* Mountain Magic includes two-hour group lessons for one day or two days. The cost for one day for adults is \$100 for the lesson, lift ticket and rentals (\$80 for seniors 65 and older).

- *Non-package group and private lessons:* Private lessons are \$75 for an hour or \$130 for two hours. Semi-private lessons for two are \$130 for an hour or \$220 for two hours. Semi-private lessons for three people are \$165 for an hour and \$299 for two hours. One-hour group lessons are \$40.

Mount Sunapee Resort (1398 Route 103, Newbury, 763-3500, mountsunapee.com)

- *For first-timers:* Visit South Peak, Sunapee’s beginner area, for its “Start Here” programs. Packages include a two-hour group lesson, rentals and lift ticket. There is a traditional package as well as a “Guided” package, which includes assistance from the instructor from the check-in process to the rental shop and through the end of the lesson. One-day packages are either \$84 or \$89 and two-day packages are either \$130 or \$135 and can be used any two days during the season.

- *Lessons for any skill group:* Group and private lessons are \$59 and \$95, respectively. There’s a “Tuesday Tune-Up” program, which meets Tuesdays 10 a.m. to noon in a Women’s Workshop and a Men’s Workshop group.

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Remember when your parents were teaching you how to drive? Remember how frustrating that was? Learning to ski is no different. Instructors are on staff at ski areas to help you learn, so take advantage of their training and expertise.

“It just makes you comfortable,” Pats Peak Director of Marketing Lori Rowell said. “It’s just not a natural feeling to be sliding around.”

Rowell added that it can be frustrating when learning from a friend or family member. Instructors are there to be patient and work with beginners each step of the way.

Even avid skiers can learn a thing or two

Pats Peak also has a terrain park for freestyle skiing. The park includes features like jumps in different sizes and levels, rails (like handrails), boxes (features that are flat on the top and shaped, like the s-box or the c-box), spines and rollers. Terrain park instructors are trained in both ski and snowboarding,

and there’s also the Microburst Progression Park, an area with smaller features for people to try freestyle skiing.

Even if you’re not really up for some freestyle skiing, taking a lesson in your skill level can be a great way to gain experience. ☁



This guy’s having fun, and you can too — even if you’re just starting out. Photo courtesy of Pats Peak.

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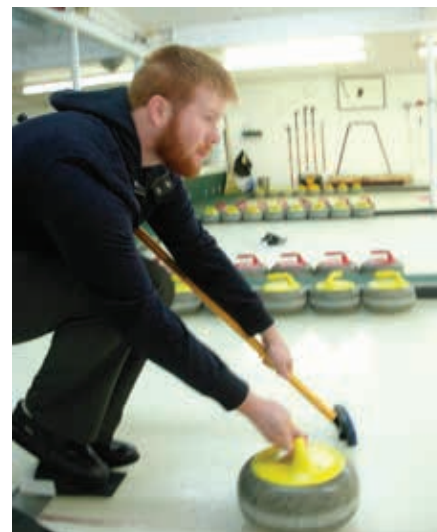
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Curling, demystified

A first attempt at the Olympic sport



Curling expert Nate Clark takes to the ice. Photo by Rebecca Fishow.

By Rebecca Fishow
rfishow@hippopress.com

When Nate Clark, a Nashua resident and former U.S. National Curling Team member, talks to people about curling, about 50 percent of them have heard of the sport, and even they seem a bit confused.

"They say, 'Are you the thrower or the sweeper?' And you just say 'There's a rotation. Everyone does both,'" said Clark. "A lot of people seem to think there's one person who throws all the stones and everyone else just sweeps."

The confusion is understandable, since we're talking about a sport that seems to pop up magically during the Winter Olympics for a couple weeks, then disappears for another four years. People watch it, become intrigued and try to figure it out before it retreats back into the secret places from which it comes.

One of those secret places is the Nashua Country Club, which houses a three-lane curling rink for its members. I spoke with Clark there on a sunny Sunday morning before he gave me a lesson.

The facility was empty and serene as I sat in the lounge area waiting for Clark. A lone curler carefully launched stones across the far left ice curling sheet (that's what they call the floor where the game is played). Though there wasn't a lot of commotion at the time, cork boards with postings of league rosters and schedules, rows of spectator benches in front of massive glass windows and an equipped snack bar suggested the place often became very lively.

Was I nervous about my pending lesson? Not really. At worst, I thought, I would simply be bad at it — maybe slip and fall on the ice or deliver a disastrous stone. But I could live with that.

Enter Clark, a tall, bearded redhead, ready to teach me a thing or two about a sport often misconceived as being unathletic.

"A lot of people think they can probably just show up," he told me. "They think, 'Oh yeah, this is going to be easy. This sport looks dumb.' You're going to fall over, and you're not going to do well."

Curling has a bit of a learning curve, Clark said. Newcomers tend to struggle with finding their balance when delivering stones, being able to line it up or releasing the stone so it "curls" right (hence the sport's name).

"If you turn it a little too much, you set the stone off path. You're shooting this thing a hundred-something feet and you're trying to hit a spot that's maybe half an inch wide," Clark said.

I couldn't participate in an actual game, because curling is played between two rinks (teams) of four (players are called the lead, second, vice, and skip) that each throw eight rocks and try to score more points than the other team. But I could at least get a feel for throwing and sweeping.

Before we hit the ice, Clark put on his curling shoes. One shoe had a slider sole, which was smooth and slippery on the ice. The other had a rubber gripper. A good pair of shoes can go for upward of \$250, but beginner pairs are sold for as little as \$80.

Obviously, I didn't have my own, so Clark pulled out a box of slider soles, which fit over shoes with elastic straps. It's a temporary curling-ready footwear solution.

The rink was separated from the lounge by a wall, and when we walked in, things quickly got skating-rink cold. My sweatshirt and winter hat weren't quite enough to keep me warm. I wore jeans, which was a bad choice too. Sweatpants or stretchy yoga pants would have worked better for flexibility.

I took a minute to find my balance with one very slippery sole. I imagine I looked a bit like a confused penguin at first. Then Clark showed me the stones lined up to the left of the ice and the hack (starter's block) in the middle. He demonstrated how to position my feet in the hack, shift my weight back with the stone in one hand and

Ready to give curling a try?

New Hampshire has a small community of curling enthusiasts who curl on competitive teams and at non-competitive meetups. The Nashua Country Club offers lessons and club teams for its members and even hosts the Granite State Bonspiel (a curling competition). For more information, visit mvcurling.com.

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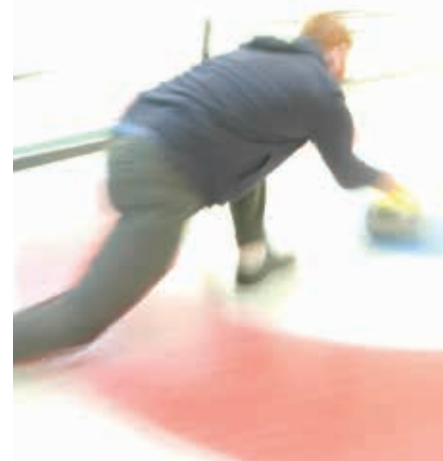
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a sliding support in the other, and slide my slider foot forward to propel my body forward in a stretched-out, down-on-one-knee posture.

"Like this?" I asked a couple of times before reluctantly launching myself into a forward glide down the ice. I released the stone with way more force than necessary. It hit the back wall beyond the scoring area. The second time I gave it a shot, Clark helped me focus on my hand movement for making the stone curl. It involved a wrist motion that felt extremely awkward, but to my surprise Clark said I curled the stone pretty well.

Clark showed me how to sweep, too. He explained that I should move the brush back and forth across the ice in front of the moving stone while applying as much pressure as possible, in order to remove debris and create friction. If throwing the stone felt awkward, this was worse; I had no real way to judge whether my motions were doing anything at all, and I imagine I'd need a few more lessons to get a sense of that.

Final verdict: In a lot of ways curling is for everybody. While it requires some athleticism, it's a lifetime sport played by all ages and physical abilities (there's even a delivery stick for people who can't crouch down. Wheelchair curling is popular too!). The sport also requires its fair share of



Curling expert Nate Clark takes to the ice. Photo by Rebecca Fishow.

strategy and precision, so it's great for people who like to get brainy. I left the curling club more interested in the sport than I was when I went in and would love to grab some friends for a more serious lesson. But I also knew that if I attempted to join in on an actual match, my frustration levels would probably peak.

In short, it was definitely fun, but I didn't leave feeling the urge to devote all my spare time to the curling gods. ❄️

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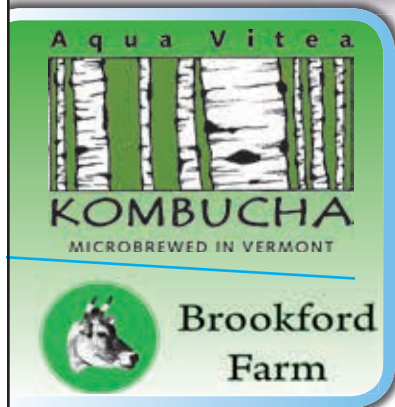
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Never too old to dream

Adults can learn to skate too



Vicky Dagresta of Deerfield didn't start figure skating until she was in her early 40s. Courtesy photo.

By Kelly Sennott
ksennott@hippopress.com

Are you 30? Forty? Fifty years old? Your dreams of competitive figure skating don't have to be over just yet.

To be fair, it is probably too late for the Olympics — no female or male singles figure skater over the age of 30 has medaled since 1924, when, according to Wikipedia, Ethel Muckett from Great Britain won bronze at age 38 — but people over the age of 50, heck, over 60 have found successful and fulfilling amateur careers in figure skating right here in New Hampshire, many of which started with adult learn-to-skate classes.

"It's a thing! It's out there!" said Jen

Hurley, Granite State Figure Skating Club coach and skating director at the Tri-Town Ice Arena in Hooksett. "It's a lifelong sport. You can do it forever."

And there's a big call for it, too. Most of the beginning adult students at Tri-Town Arena are learning to skate because they want to keep up with their kids; they want to learn a fun form of exercise; they want to play stick-and-puck hockey; or they simply never had before and wanted to give it a try.

Take Judy Williams of Deerfield, for instance. She began taking lessons at age 41 simply because until then she'd never had the opportunity. That was more than 20 years ago, and she's still skating.

"I skated for the first time on an indoor

Controversy on the U.S. Ladies' Olympic team

If you've been watching the news, you probably already know about the controversial decision to send Ashley Wagner to the Olympics in one of the U.S.'s three spots for ladies singles skaters, despite her disappointing fourth-place finish at the National Championships two weeks ago. Right now, the U.S. team includes Wagner, Gracie Gold (who won) and Polina Edmunds (who came in second). Left as an alternate is third-place finisher Mirai Nagasu.

Although the National Championships is not an official trial for the Olympic team, it's been tradition that the skaters who place top two or three (depending on the number of spots the U.S. has) move on to the World or Olympic Championships. Exceptions have been few, with one example being the 1994 Tonya Harding/Nancy Kerrigan event. Wagner was reportedly chosen because of her more successful year of competition — she was one of the only U.S. figure skaters to qualify for the Grand Prix Finals, an international competition in which she finished third — but Nagasu is not without credentials. She's the only one of the four with Olympic experience and placed fourth at the Games in 2010. This also isn't the first time Wagner choked under extreme pressure, having also missed the 2010 Olympic team with a fourth-place finish.

As such, this decision made by the United States Figure Skating Association has caused extreme controversy, with many locals in the skating realm quite angry.

"All of the coaches at our rink and in the area, we all have the same opinion. I think everybody does," Hurley said in a follow-up phone call. "It was unfair. Poor Mirai got the shaft. ... I was at Nationals in Boston this year. During Mirai's program, people were on their feet with 15 seconds left of her program. It's all political. ... As figure skaters, we all feel very disappointed, because it's one more thing that turns people off from the sport."



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Members of the Granite State Figure Skating Club, from left to right, Sonja Raslavicus, Peggy Rosen, Vicky Dagresta, and coach Jennifer Hurley. Courtesy photo.

rink when I was 40. I was with my sister-in-law, and I said, 'I wish I took skating lessons,'" Williams said in a phone interview. She was flipping through her copy of Skating magazine at the time of the call.

Her sister-in-law suggested she give it a try, and a year later she started taking lessons in Concord. The lessons soon catapulted into a passion for the ice. About 17 years ago, she started lessons with Hurley.

A few years after her first lesson, she competed in the United States Figure Skating Association's first adult master's national competition, which has since become pretty competitive.

"I skated every chance I had for about five years," Williams said. "I had no idea how addictive this was going to be! It's the only exercise I've ever stuck to, and I stuck to it in a big way for a long time." (She also rides horses and opened a stable a few years after she started skating, but she still skates regularly.)

"I absolutely love the sport. I love the feeling of skating, and I love learning new skills. Jumps actually came more easily to me than spins did," said Williams, who is now 62. The flip and loop jumps are her favorites.

Forty-nine-year-old Vicky Dagresta of Deerfield, another member of the Granite State Figure Skating Club, didn't start skating seriously until her early 40s. She began in 2006 while seeking a fun way to get exercise.

"I always loved to skate as a kid. I grew up on a lake, and back when ponds actually froze at Christmastime, I used to do twirls around the goal line while everyone else played hockey," Dagresta said. "I always loved skating — I wanted to go to the Olympics! — but by the

time I had enough money to take lessons, I was 18. I was too old to start training."

Today she skates on Tuesdays and Fridays at the Tri-Town Arena and is training to compete at the U.S. Adult Championships, which this year take place in Hyannis, Mass.

Williams and Dagresta are not unique to the figure skating world. Today there are adult figure skating programs in venues across the state, including the Tri-Town Arena, which offers two adult Learn to Skate programs on weeknights for students 15 and older.

"You can go at any speed you want," Dagresta said. "You don't have to test or compete, but I like to do it because I like the goals. ... That's what's exciting for me, the challenges you put out there in front of yourself and accomplishing them."

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"My oldest student is 71. She's going strong and isn't quitting any time soon," Hurley said. "Skating is an individual sport. Everyone's on a different journey."

And everyone starts in the same place. "The first, the most important thing you'll learn is how to get up when you fall. We have newcomers sit down on the ice and push themselves back up," Hurley said. "You've got to have a sense of humor, too."

Advice for newcomers from Williams: invest in good equipment. Skating in flimsy gear is kind of like mountain biking with a tricycle.

"If it's something you'd like to stick to, buy the skates with the support in them. While you don't have to be a superstar, you should have decent equipment," Williams said. ☁

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GED-Language	N/A	M.Theriault	N/A	Tuesday	Feb.11-May 27	6-8pm	\$30
Cooking for Today	Elective	E.Greenland	1/2	Tuesday	Feb.11-April 22	6-8pm	\$100+25
Computers in Business	Elective	J.Roy	1/2	Tuesday	Feb.11-April 22	6-8pm	\$100
Chemistry	Academic	K.Hamel	1	Tuesday	Feb.11-May 27	6-8pm	\$175
SAT-Math	Elective	K.Sargent	1/4	Thursday	Feb.13-April 10	3-5pm	\$75
Algebra	Academic	K.Sargent	1	Thursday	Feb.13-May 29	6-8pm	\$160
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GED-Math	N/A	B.Carey	N/A	Thursday	Feb.13-May 29	6-8pm	\$30
Backyard Birding	Elective	N.Lambert	1/2	Thursday	March 20-May 29	5-7pm	\$100
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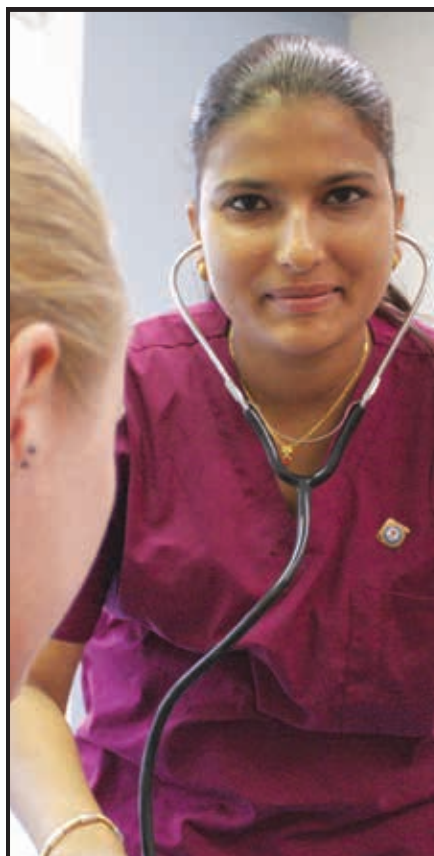
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088447



NH experts share happily-ever-after tips, from proposal to honeymoon

It's the Hippo's annual wedding issue, and this year, we're staying local. Walk through your perfect proposal with Rebecca Fishow, who has advice on everything from ring-buying to where to get down on bended knee (or up on Jumbotron). Emelia Attridge talked to local bakers about what is arguably the most important part of the wedding — or at least the most delicious: the cake! (Did you know that groom's cakes are a thing?) Kaitlin Joseph talked to wedding planners about one tough wedding-day choice: band or DJ? And finally, Kelly Sennott puts the big day in the rear view mirror with suggestions for romantic — and fun! — New Hampshire honeymoons.

Whether you're getting married yourself, are always the bridesmaid or just want some advice on what makes a good cake or honeymoon (hey, you could always take a second one!), these tips will help you make the perfect New Hampshire-centric plans.

Completely engaging

Like rings, proposals come in all shapes and sizes

By Rebecca Fishow
rffishow@hippopress.com

You've found the right person. This person is awesome. Like crazy, amazingly awesome. You share similar values and life goals. You are compatible in more ways than one. You're each other's best friend, and when you don't see eye to eye, you agree to disagree.

In other words, it's time to put a ring on it.

But how does one do that, exactly? It's simple, right? Get down on one knee. Ask the four magic words. Hold your breath until you (*gasp*) hear a "yes."

Not exactly. Nerves, social expectations and perfectionism risk mucking up any couple's fantasy proposal. Emily St. Pierre,

owner and lead planner of All The Fuss Weddings and Events — she left the fast-paced Vegas wedding event planning industry to set up shop in New Hampshire — says getting it right is all about making the moment special for just the two of you.

"In the end of it, being engaged is the goal, and if something doesn't go exactly perfect, it's OK," St. Pierre said.

Here's some advice for losing those down-on-one-knee jitters.

True to you

Whether you choose a private, intimate setting or a public proposal amongst friends, family or everyone who can see the jumbotron, opt for an experience that is true to you as a couple. Think about each other's styles

and personality and let that be your guide. Ultimately the moment is about two people, and that should be the focus.

Social media mayhem

Did you hear about the guy who worked with a Washington Post crossword writer to come up with a "willyoumarryme" crossword answer for his girlfriend to find? What about the inventive young man who created and videotaped a puppet version of the couple's courtship and then showed it to his girlfriend before popping the question? Viral videos of over-the-top proposals can lead to pressure to do something more elaborate, but don't let that impulse get the best of you. No matter what the proposal, in the end it will be so special that it won't really matter how

grandiose the gesture was.

On the same token, hold off on logging onto Facebook or Twitter to announce your new relationship status. Take a few hours to be in the moment before shouting it out to the digital world.

The ring thing

Back in the day, choosing an engagement ring was pretty simple, said David Bellman owner of Bellman's Jewelers in Manchester. The guy would come in, choose from one or two rings, and that was it.

"Now the poor guy will come in and there's like 1,200 rings to choose from," he said.

In the past, it may have been a faux pas for women to help pick out their own engage-

ment rings, but today more future fiancées are surfing the Web or snapping photos of engagement rings with their phones, then forwarding them along to their guys. Bellman encourages this behavior.

“Let’s face it. When you are spending that kind of money you want to make sure it’s right,” he said. “This is a huge help to guys.”

But if the couple is a little more old-fashioned, there are plenty of trends to give guys some insight into what’s popular right now. As far as the cut of the stone, round brilliant cuts are still the most popular, but princess and cushion cuts are gaining popularity. Princess cuts are perfect square diamonds while cushion cut diamonds are squares with rounded edges — a cut that works better for 2 karat or larger gems.

The halo-style setting is a vintage style band that’s trending today. It’s a band of small jewels around the center stone jewel, expanding its size be as much as a half carat or more. Whether the center stone is round or square, a lot of couples have been going with that. The extra jewels don’t have to equal extra bucks, Bellman said. A \$5,000 budget could mean a \$4,500 stone and a \$500 band, or a \$4,000 stone and a \$1,000 band.

Custom rings are also in. Some future grooms seek out designers to create personalized or alternative types of rings that sometimes incorporate heirloom jewels to honor family and tradition.

“I’ve seen brides who have taken family diamonds and put them in new settings. It’s maybe someone that has passed or a ring passed down through a few different generations,” St. Pierre said. “[For] one couple, the fiancé’s dad passed away so his mom gave her ring to him.”

Random proposals

“I love proposals that come on a random day or night — a random Tuesday afternoon,” St. Pierre said. While some grooms-to-be might get down on one knee at Christmas or New Year’s Eve, proposing at an unexpected time could add an element of surprise and make it memorable.

Even if you’ve planned everything to a tee, being able to improvise if the urge hits will lessen the stress. One of St. Pierre’s clients prepared an intricate proposal involving an elaborate dinner, but the ring was burning a hole in his pocket. Instead of waiting he got down on one knee when his future fiancée came out of the shower for an impromptu proposal.

Destination engagements

There is much ado about destination weddings, but a trip might be the perfect time for an engagement too. Whether it’s a romantic excursion to Paris or a weekend in the White Mountains, a special setting can amp up the wow factor.

One potential con of a destination engage

ment? It could eliminate the surprise because the engagement hopeful may be expecting it. The trick is to choose a surprising moment during the trip. One of St. Pierre’s clients had a hunch her boyfriend was going to propose to her during a trip to the family lake house. But instead of waiting, her beau got down on one knee 10 minutes after they arrived.

A family affair

Proposals can still be romantic even if the couple wants family around to share the moment. Pick a location that is charming and somewhat private, like a sunset at the beach. Maybe set up a beautiful picnic. Maybe hide the family and friends behind a sand dune or a patch of swaying long grass. It’s really special for some couples to have their family and friends present for a post-yes celebration, St. Pierre said. And as an added bonus, there is sure to be someone taking photos to capture the moment — no selfies required.

For private types, stay at home

The home is a simple, meaningful proposal location, especially for couples who already live together and are more private. A couple’s house, condo or apartment can often have more emotional significance than anywhere else, and there are plenty of ways to dress up the occasion.

Try setting up the house with flowers and candles while your significant other is at work and be waiting on one knee when he or she walks through the door. If you don’t share a living space together, a favorite hiking trail, park or beach where you’ve spent a lot of time together could provide the perfect picturesque setting. 🌿

Have your cake and eat it, too

Tips from local bakers

By Emelia Attridge
food@hippopress.com

Visions of wedding cakes from shows like *My Fair Wedding* and *Ace of Cakes* may be dancing in your head, but reality TV is far from the real experience.

“They don’t tell you what things cost, so I think it’s unfair for brides who come in,” Jacques Pastries’ pastry chef and cake decorator Tami Despres said about popular reality TV programs. “The cakes are beautiful, but the cost is so high.”

Despres and Anne Walsh, manager at Frederick’s Pastries in Amherst, both said brides are often blindsided after seeing cakes on TV as well as online.

Groovy groom’s cakes

Cupcake wedding cakes are no longer the reigning cake trend. Now, groom’s cakes are all the rage. Groom’s cakes are served during the rehearsal dinner and often take the shape of a groom’s or the couple’s favorite pastime.

“It’s nice the grooms have really gotten involved, too,” Depres said. “The traditional wedding cakes are still popular, but the fun ones are popping up here and there.”

Depres has seen Yoda from *Star Wars* and the minions from *Despicable Me* as groom’s cakes, and she said sports themes are a popular choice.

“Groom’s cakes are very trendy,” Walsh said. “More often than not they’re more traditional with their wedding cakes [for the reception]. They don’t want it too outrageous, but they want it individualized.”



These halo engagement ring settings from Bellman’s Jewelers feature various diamond cuts that sparkle and shine.
(Also seen on page 31)

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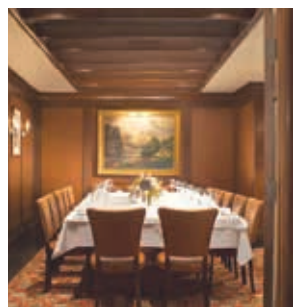
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"Is it in your budget? Some of the Pinterest cakes come from Las Vegas and Europe," Walsh said.

Here are some realistic cake-shopping tips from local bakeries.

Couples should schedule a cake consultation four to six months prior to the wedding date. But first, meet with your florist and decide on a color scheme and wedding theme.

During the cake consultation, brides and grooms can design their dream cake and taste cake flavors. Despres recommends looking at the list of flavors in advance.

"Some people don't like like espresso or gingerbread," she said. "Now, everybody does something different. ... It's not just white or chocolate anymore."

Jacques makes unique flavors like hazelnut and lemon and fillings like black Russian, caramel and amaretto. At Frederick's, the white almond pound cake is popular, paired with raspberry filling and buttercream frosting, Walsh said. Pumpkin is popular in fall, and during the winter months, couples favor dense cakes. Frederick's has its own signature Purple Velvet cake.

"It gets a really cool response from the crowd too," Walsh said.

After the consultation, order your cake at least two months in advance. The busiest wedding months in New Hampshire are May, June and October.

"If they know they're getting married in a busy season, meet sooner than later," Walsh said.

Wedding cake is priced by the slice, so it's important to have the number of wedding guests finalized before ordering the cake. The number of tiers a cake has corresponds to the number of guests (for example, a three-tier cake can feed between 50 and 80 guests, and a four-tier cake can feed around 150).

"If you have a budget, be straightforward with us," Walsh said.

Some of the wedding cakes on reality TV programs can cost up to \$1,000. Fondant is more expensive than buttercream, and sugar flowers cost more than real flowers, Depres said. She added that one option couples have is to order a smaller wedding cake with a sheet cake in the back for guests.

Find your local wedding cake

The following southern New Hampshire bakeries were recommended by wedding sources like *The Knot* and *New Hampshire Wedding Magazine*. Know of another bakery with wedding cake consultation and design? Let us know at food@hippopress.com.

Creative Cakes By Debby (3 Michelle Drive, Nashua, 882-1666, creativecakesby-debby.com)

Frederick's Pastries (109 Route 101, Amherst, 882-7725; 25 S. River Road, Bedford, 647-2253, pastry.net)

Jacques Fine European Pastries (128 Main



Frederick's Pastries (with locations in Bedford, Amherst and Andover, Mass.) caters to local couples with buttercream and fondant cake designs. Courtesy photo.

Seasons are the favorite design inspiration for local couples. "New Hampshire is big in the fall. That's wedding season; the birch tree effect, fall leaves, that is total New Hampshire," Frederick's Pastries' cake decorator Jennifer Wojtaszek said.

Seasonal influences include spring garden flowers, sugared snowflakes in winter and seashells during summer months.

Walsh said that brides are incorporating their bridesmaids' colors into the cake now, too.

"They like to have their flowers that are going to be in the bouquet in their wedding cake and they like to use the bridesmaids' dresses somehow — whether it's in the ribbon of the cake or the detail of the cake — because it kind of ties everything together," she said.

Ultimately, when it comes down to flavor, design and the budget, cake decorators like Depres, Walsh and Wojtaszek are the best to go to for advice.

"Trust us. ... Chocolate and lemon probably isn't the flavor profile you're looking for. You think it looks good, but maybe not. Just trust in the person that's doing it," Wojtaszek said.

St., Suncook, 485-4035, jacquespastries.com)

Just Like Mom's Pastries (353 Riverdale Road, Weare, 529-6667, justlikemomspastries.com)

Michelle's Gourmet Pastries & Deli (819 Union St., Manchester, 647-7150, michellespastries.com)

New London Confections (9 Newport Road, New London, 526-6066, nlconfections.com)

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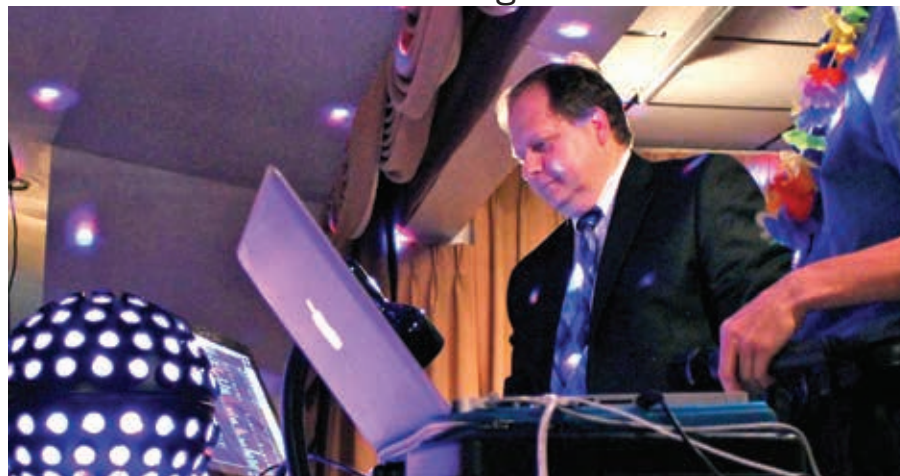
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Band vs. DJ

Which is better for a wedding?



Sowa Entertainment DJ's. Photo courtesy of Jennifer Copp.

By Kaitlin Joseph
kjoseph@hippopress.com

So your boyfriend of eight years finally proposes and you get to plan the wedding of your dreams. Do you pick a cake or cupcakes? Real or fake flowers? A DJ or a band?

Picking entertainment for your wedding can be a tough decision, but having a wedding planner by your side could make all the difference. Laurie Mantegari, owner of Everyday Details, said choosing a band or a DJ is simple: It's all about your personality and the atmosphere you want to create.

"Bands are wonderful. They're lively and you get that interaction with them. You get that intimate feeling with them," Mantegari said. "[But] a DJ can play any genre of music you want."

Mantegari said to consider your budget too. In general, a band will be more expensive than a DJ.

She also noted that it's important to go see the musician or DJ in action and to get to know whomever you choose.

"It's really important to develop a relationship with them. You're going to be communicating with them for 6 months to a year. Ask them questions, see how they are in front of a crowd," Mantegari said.

In the past year, Mantegari said that she's noticed bands are on the rise and are very popular right now.

"I was very surprised at the number of people that hired bands," she said. "But bands really get the crowd moving all night long, whereas a DJ just pushes play."

But a decision to choose a band or a DJ remains entirely up to the couple.

"It depends on the couple's vision and dreams," Mantegari said.

Sometimes that just takes a little rearing of your budget. One of the ways Mantegari will help a couple plan is to sit down with them and make a pie chart to divvy up their budget.

"You're creating memories that are close to your heart that you can relive with each other," Mantegari said.

At Affordable Occasions, Leslye Amico is also adamant that the decision between a band and a DJ is entirely up to the couples and their personalities.

"Deciding on a band versus a DJ is a personal decision," Amico said. "Each can give your reception a different feeling. However, I don't think one is better than the other. I think it is important to stay within your budget and understand the importance that the band or DJ has in the day."

Sometimes, a couple's decision may solely rest on its budget.

"I do think that the decision of a band versus DJ often comes down to money. In the past year, we planned weddings with budgets under \$10,000 and over \$40,000," Amico said. "I think each wedding day is unique. Some couples want a fun party, others a sophisticated affair and some a casual gathering. They want to have an occasion that both they and their guests will remember and enjoy."

Amico noted that some locals are even making the decision to forgo wedding entertainment all together due to budget restraints. Some couples are opting to play music from an iPod. Amico recommends against this, as bands and DJs also double as emcees.

Planning your you time

How to honeymoon local

By Kelly Sennott
ksennott@hippopress.com

The flowers, the invitations, the cake and the venue are all of utmost importance when it comes to planning a wedding, but when all is said and done, it's the honeymoon that matters. It's when you get to do what you want, when you want, without worrying about your guests.

Find wedding entertainment

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- Exclusive Music, 488-1131, exclusivemusicnh.com
- Rare Form Band, 635-9861, rareformband.com
- UpTown Celebration, 498-1048, uptowncelebration.com
- Wellfleet, 502-5632, wellfleetmusic.com

DJs

- Get Down Tonight Entertainment, 887-968-7697, getdowntonight.com
- Main Event Entertainment, 833-8293, amainevent.com
- BTE Entertainment, 427-0174, btedjs.com
- Aaron Denny, 490-0742, aarondenny.com
- MC Productions, 603-0331, mcpnh.com
- Shwingtyme Entertainment, 765-3256, shwingtyme.com
- Pete Chamber's DJ Entertainment, 347-1030, petechambers.com

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- weddingwire.com
- theknot.com

"My feeling is, you only get to be the bride and groom once. Be sure it is the day you envision," Amico said. "Enjoy your day and let the professionals give you your dream day."

Shannon Spiliotis of Spiliotis Events said the decision is sometimes based upon your venue as well.

"Take into consideration the size of the space, as bands tend to take up more space than a DJ," Spiliotis said. "A DJ typically needs a table and a few speakers."

Even though money is a key factor, Spiliotis wants couples to remember that the entertainment is one of the most important aspects of the wedding.

"If having a great band or DJ is really important to you, don't solely base your decision on who offers the lowest price," Spiliotis said. "Spend the most on things that really matter to you and scale back in other places." 🌈

To put it simply, the honeymoon is all about you.

But you don't have to go away for this bliss; if you're going to honeymoon local, New Hampshire is the place to do it, said Tai Freligh, communications manager at the New Hampshire Division of Travel and Tourism Development.

"We have so much variety within such a small state," he said.



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Cold escape

Where to go: White Mountains, Lakes Region, North Woods

The White Mountains are the obvious choice for a local winter getaway, especially for **skiers**, but there are lots of people who live in New Hampshire who don't ski.

Fear not — there's still plenty to do.

Take **dogsledding**, for example. The **Muddy Paw Dog Sled Kennel** (dogslednh.com) offers year-round dogsled rides that range in length from 2 to 50 miles. You can take classes and learn how to be a musher, or you can just "bundle up and be pulled by these dogs," Freligh said. If there's no snow on the ground, the dogs pull "rolling" sleds, too. For those not heading that far north, **Valley Snow Dogz** (valleysnowdogz.com) is an option in the Lakes Region.

You can take an **old-fashioned sleigh ride** in areas all around the state, including at the Mount Washington Resort, Waterville Valley Resort, Nestlenook Farm in Jackson and Heritage Farm Pancake House in Sanbornton.

Or go **snowshoeing** (find out where at nhstateparks.org) or **snowmobiling** (visitnh.gov) and stay in an inn or hotel to package the deal.

Hot honeymoon

Where to go: Seacoast, Lakes Region, White Mountains

Summer is by far the most popular month for tourists, and while there are no definite numbers, Freligh suspects it's the same with honeymooners.

"**Downtown Portsmouth** is very walkable. There are a lot of shops and restaurants, arts and culture there," Freligh said. "Then there's **The Music Hall** and its new Loft — they perform more intimate musical sessions and films, that sort of thing."

Not to mention the free outdoor shows at **Prescott Park** and the many area theater companies. There are plenty of quaint bed-and-breakfasts, like the Ale House Inn, which has top ranks on tripadvisor.com.

For a bit of liveliness, **Hampton Beach** is also a popular area in the summertime, with its concerts at the Casino, the street vendors, the surfing, the swimming and the renovated oceanfront pavilion. All year long it's bustling with summer activities, fireworks, outdoor movies and events.

Top 10 Romantic Spots in NH

Voted by New Hampshire Tourism's Facebook fans

1. Woodstock
2. Lake Winnepesaukee
3. Odiorne Point
4. Diana's Baths
5. Sabbaday Falls
6. Inn at Thorn Hill
7. Cathedral Ledge
8. North Conway Grand Hotel
9. Sculptured Rocks, Groton
10. Christmas Farm Inn



Sunset over Lake Winnepesaukee. Julia Freeman-Woolpert photo. Courtesy of NH Division of Travel & Tourism.

There's plenty to do in the Lakes Region too. **Gunstock** offers **ziplines**, **Segway trails**, **horseback riding** and scenic places for **mountain biking**. Not too far away is **Mount Major**, a moderate hike with amazing views of Lake Winnepesaukee and the remains of a stone hiking shelter at the top.

During the summertime in the White Mountains, you could try **white water rafting** in Gorham (raftnh.com). Many other New Hampshire ski resorts, like Sunapee in Newbury, Cranmore in North Conway and Bretton Woods (the longest in New England), also offer canopy tours.

Spring & Fall

Where to go: Anywhere

"Spring is the low season for tourism, but there are still plenty of things going on," Freligh said. "Forty percent of our tourism happens in the summer season. If you're looking for quieter time, fewer people come in the spring," he said.

Franconia Notch, for instance, houses the **Fields of Lupine Festival** during the first two or three full weeks of June, an annual event sponsored by the Franconia Notch Chamber of Commerce. It's a celebration of the plentiful purple Lupines in the area and, in addition to great scenery, it includes special events, **concerts**, walking tours, an **open-air market** and "Lupine trails" that you can enjoy on foot or **horse-drawn wagon**.

If you are honeymooning in the early spring, you can hit up everything that's good about **maple season** in March. Freligh said there are at least 100 sugar shacks that offer tours and tastings through visitnh.gov. There are special packages, too, that allow you to stay at an inn or **bed-and-breakfast** afterward.

The fall is heavy with **film**, **food**, **fairs** and **foliage**, and is a more popular time for tourists, so Freligh advises honeymooners to plan ahead.

"If you're going to Lincoln or Woodstock during the fall season, there will be a lot of people driving on the Kancamagus Highway looking at foliage, so take that into consideration. Book ahead; if you're trying to get into a bed-and-breakfast, there are lots of properties that have just 10, 15 rooms," he said.

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THIS WEEK

EVENTS TO CHECK OUT JANUARY 23 - 29, 2014, AND BEYOND



Friday, Jan. 24

If cabin fever is starting to set in, get the family out for a night of fun at the Concord Family YMCA (15 North State St. in Concord, 228-9622, concordymca.org) tonight from 5:15 to 7:30 p.m. For \$5 per family get food, gym games, pool activities and fun on the climbing wall. Call to register by noon on Friday. The event is open to the public (you don't need to be a YMCA member).



Eat: Wine week begins!

A week of wine fun kicks off on Monday, Jan. 27, with a wine dinner with Maria Sinskey, chief cook and culinary director of Robert Sinskey Vineyard, at Home Hill Inn & Restaurant (703 River Road, Plainfield, 675-6165, homehillinn.com) from 5:30 to 8 p.m. The menu features five-courses paired with five Robert Sinskey wines, like Pinot Blanc, Pinot Noir, Merlot and Abraxas. Tickets cost \$65.

Drink: Wine week freebies!

Not all wine week events require big money. There are bottle signings and tastings at NH Liquor and Wine Outlet stores throughout the state. Some of the ones on Wednesday, Jan. 29, include Andrea Cecchi (noon at the store in Plaistow; 2:30 p.m. at the store in Salem); Rob Mondavi (12:30 p.m. at the Bedford store, 2:30 p.m. at the Manchester Bicentennial Drive store), and Joel Peterson (2 p.m. at the Nashua store). Find more on Wine Week in last week's issue of the Hippo. Go to hippopress.com and click on the current issue and then click on the calendar icon on the bottom left of the page



Friday, Jan. 24

The Manchester Monarchs have two home games this weekend. They will take on the Worcester Sharks tonight at 7 p.m. and the Portland Pirates on Saturday, Jan. 25, at 7 p.m. (which is Los Angeles Kings night — first 2,000 fans receive a special Kings bank). The Monarchs (manchestrmonarchs.com) play at the Verizon Wireless Arena (555 Elm St in Manchester, 626-7825).



Saturday, Jan. 25

Cat lovers, head to Dover Middle School (16 Daley Drive) for the New Hampshire Feline Fanciers Cat Show, which runs today (10 a.m. to 5 p.m.) and tomorrow (Jan. 26 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.) See a variety of cat breeds, meet the national-winning agility cat from New England and shop cat-related vendors. Admission costs \$8 (\$5 for seniors and children ages 6 to 14). See nhff.org.



Saturday, Jan. 25

Today is the last day to catch *Xanadu*, the comedy musical based on the 1980s movie, at the Palace Theatre (80 Hanover St. in Manchester, palacetheatre.org, 668-5588). Today's shows are at 2 and 7:30 p.m. (There are also Thursday and Friday shows at 7:30 p.m.) For more on the production (which features the actors on roller skates), see our story on page 38 in the Jan. 9 issue (which is at e-pages.dk/thehippo/332/38; go to hippopress.com and click on the current issue and then click on the calendar icon).



Wednesday, Jan. 29

Shake off the mid-week blues with trivia night, tonight starting at 8 p.m., at Fody's Great American Tavern (9 Clinton St. in Nashua, 577-9015, fodystavern.com). Find more nightlife fun in the Nite section, which starts on page 80.

Be Merry: With lumberjacks!

Cirque Alfonse presents "Timber" a Canadian circus art production featuring an Acadian soundtrack and a Northwoods lumberjack theme at the Dana Center (Saint Anselm College, 100 Saint Anselm Drive in Manchester, anselm.edu/dana) on Saturday, Jan. 25, at 7:30 p.m. Find out more about this twist on the traditional circus in last week's issue (Jan. 16) on page 65. Go to hippopress.com and click on the current issue and then click on the calendar icon on the bottom left of the page.

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Turning, flipping and rearranging

Andrew Witkin provokes thought with Currier exhibition



Currier Museum of Art second-floor American gallery with plywood furniture designed by Witkin and New Hampshire Furniture Master, Tom McLaughlin, and based on Currier collection objects. 2014. Courtesy photo.

By Kelly Sennott
ksennott@hippopress.com

When Andrew Witkin was given full access to the Currier Museum of Art's collection, archives and library holdings two and a half years ago, one of the first things that grabbed him was the tall clock by Levi Hutchins overlooking the upper level gallery.

"First off, the casing on it is beautiful," Witkin said in a phone interview.

Indeed, the piece offers exquisite detail, rich colors, gold trim and, to top it off, a painting of a hunter just above the face.

"I was originally moved by all the wood-work of the case of the clock."

But what kept his attention was the research that followed.

"I realized that nobody knows who did the case, who made the painting at the top of the clock. It's listed under the clockmaker's name, the man who did the mechanics," Witkin said. "Levi Hutchins is a clockmaker, but you don't see that."

"I thought it was an interesting thing to think about, that something was known to have been made by somebody who made the inside," Witkin continued. "How often

do you ever learn about the inside of something? You learn about the surface. You learn about the superstar, not the person who made the song. It was a beautiful gesture, but at the same time, it was incomplete."

So, in one of the seven installations that make up his museum-wide exhibition, "Exploring the Currier Inside Out: Andrew Witkin at the Currier Museum of Art," Witkin created a piece of art alongside the beautiful clock that detailed another version of the piece's insides. Witkin made a silhouette layered in the archived documents the Currier kept as record of purchase.

While thought-provoking — in the letters, the papers and invoice, you can see the exchange before the museum purchased the tall clock — Witkin made the silhouette visually representational, too, as the papers are layered in such a way you can see the shape of the clock's face, the panels of wood and the contrasting wood color, mirrored with contrasting paper color (the documents are of different colors due to age).

The exhibition, which is on view through May 11, is part of the museum's Contemporary Connections series, a yearly invitation the Currier offers to early- and mid-career artists from New England. The museum brings in these artists to create projects made in dialogue with the museum's collection, regional histories and location. Last year's visiting artist, Abby Newbold, created a fictional homestead on the "fringes" of modern society (one piece was a bike-pulled covered wagon), and the year before, Cristi Rinklin made a mural-like installation inspired by Currier's works.

Witkin's installation is unique to this

series in that it's museum-wide, but it's also a bit more abstract. Each of the seven installations that make up Witkin's exhibition looks to show the museum's items in new light.

Another way is through organization, as Currier curator Nina Gara Bozicnik explained in an exhibition walk-through shortly after its opening.

She started with the hallway right outside the museum entrance. Here there are five pieces/displays to look at: a ladder-backed chair, a dresser, a series of old documents/images, a collection of wall cuts and a hand-crafted ladder designed by Witkin and made by New Hampshire Furniture Master Tom McLaughlin. (McLaughlin also made many of the other pieces in the show; the unvarnished chairs, tables within the installations, were all designed by Witkin, constructed by McLaughlin.)

A guiding premise to the work, as Bozicnik said, is to how information can reveal different meanings depending on the context in which we encounter it.

"All of the elements in here are arranged in these horizontal stacks," she said. "The drawers in the chest; the cuts in the wall; the rungs on the ladder; the ladder-back chair; everything is arranged based on the fact that they contain these stacked rectangles."

This means of organization, she said, is significant; it's not usually how the museum organizes its collections.

"In a museum, you'll typically encounter things that are arranged in aesthetic or historical affinities. ... But here, he's grouping things based on the shared shape," Bozicnik said. "It raises the question, how do we organize information? And how does it affect the way we perceive and notice things?"

While in some of the installations, this idea will be more obvious — downstairs in the library archive there's a wall-length display of the words, arranged alphabetically,

Related programming

• **Remaking the Past: Finding Layered Histories in Archival Materials** is on Sunday, Jan. 26, at 2 p.m., and includes a lively conversation about the process of interpreting the past through visual and material records, led by the artist, Andrew Witkin, and UMass Lowell professor Kevin Petersen. The event will be followed with hot cider, refreshments and a tour of "Inside Out."

• **Currier After Hours: Boston Typewriter Orchestra** is on Thursday, March 6, at 5:30 p.m. The orchestra turns typewriters into musical instruments in a performance that combines rhythm, comedy and satire.

• **Family Saturday: Book Spine Poetry** on Saturday, March 8, at 10 a.m. It's a workshop with Meghan Petersen, Currier librarian and archivist, who will lead families in creating poetry using images of book spines from the Currier's library.

that Witkin found within Currier documents during his research — others require more contemplation.

The guidebooks and maps that accompany each of the seven installations certainly help, but Witkin, in the books and in the show, doesn't explicitly reveal his entire thought process in the exhibition's making. (And indeed, if he were to, there's far too much information to explain here.)

"There's no one thing I want people to get from this project," Witkin said. "My hope is that people give it an opportunity to converse with them, or that they take the opportunity to converse with it, to perhaps walk away with more appreciation of what the museum does and a bit of enjoyment at looking at things differently. ... I'm not looking for people to have one experience. I'm just appreciative that they look at all." 🍎



Andrew Witkin installation in a Currier Museum of Art American gallery. 2014. Courtesy photo.

"Exploring the Currier Inside Out: Andrew Witkin, Among Others"

Where: Currier Museum of Art, 150 Ash St., Manchester

When: On view now through May 11

Admission: \$12 for adults, \$10 for seniors, \$9 for students, \$5 for youth (13-17), free for children younger than 12

Contact: 669-6144, ext. 108, currier.org

LOCAL — COLOR — NH art world news

• **On view at the Hargate Gallery:** The Hargate Gallery at St. Paul's School, 325 Pleasant St., Concord, currently houses retrospective photographs by John Shearer, one of the first African American photographers for LIFE Magazine and one of the youngest hired by LOOK Magazine. The images on view, from Jan. 20 through Feb. 15, show of some of the major events Shearer documented in the 1960's and 70's, including the JFK funeral and the Ali vs. Frazier fight. It also contains some of his most recent landscape, color and flower studies. During his time as the featured exhibitor, he'll also work with students in the Hargate photo classes and give a gallery talk for the school. Visit gallery hours are Tuesday through Saturday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

• **An exhibition, a workshop and some sticks:** Apotheca Flower Shop (24 Main St., Goffstown, 497-4940) hosts artist Ann Trainor Domingue for an exhibition, a workshop and an artist's reception on Sunday, Jan. 26. The hands-on workshop is from 1 to 4 p.m., at which time participants can create art based on the style shown in the exhibition — attendees will work with ink and whittled sticks to draw and paint with watercolor. The end result will be a farm landscape or fruit still life, with a process, according to the release, similar to that of a paint bar event. A reception will follow from 4 to 6 p.m. There's a \$40 registration fee if you want to take the class.



Art by Ann Trainor Domingue. She'll show her work and hold a workshop at Apotheca in Goffstown this weekend.

Domingue, who has years of teaching experience with the Currier Museum of Art, exhibits regularly at the Newbury Street gallery in Boston and is represented locally by the Art3 Gallery in Manchester; the George Marshall Store Gallery in York, Maine; and Gallery Antonia in Chatham, Mass. Visit [anntrainordomingue](http://anntrainordomingue.com) or email domingue@comcast.net.

• **Extended viewing:** The New Hampshire Historical Society is extending two exhibitions through March 30: "Home, School and Studio: Women Artists and New Hampshire," which features paintings, drawings, prints and sculptures created by women, and "Mountain Scenery," which contains 19th-century New Hampshire landscape paintings by 17 different artists. They're on view at the New Hampshire Historical Society Museum, 6 Eagle Square, Concord, which is open Tuesday through Saturday from 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday from noon to 5 p.m. (Both exhibitions, initially, were supposed to be on view just through December 2013.) Visit nhhistory.org, call 228-6688. Admission is \$5.50. — *Kelly Sennott*

Art
• **NAAA WINTER WARM-UP EXHIBITION** on Sun., Jan. 26, 11 a.m.-4 p.m., at Hunt Building, 6 Main St., Nashua. Categories include watercolor, oil, pastel, drawing, mixed media, photography, digital art, fine jewelry. Visit nashuaareaartistsassoc.org. Free admission.
• **ARCHDIOCESE OF BOSTON BLACK CHOIR** performs at the Cathedral of St. Joseph, 145 Lowell St., Manchester, on Sun., Jan. 26, at 3 p.m. Donation \$10 suggested at door.
• **REMAKING THE PAST: FINDING LAYERED HISTORIES IN ARCHIVAL MATERIALS** program at the Currier Museum of Art, 150 Ash St., Manchester, on Sun., Jan. 26, at 2 p.m. Lively conversation about the process of interpreting the past through visual and material records. Call 669-6144, visit currier.org.
• **ANNUAL LADIES NIGHT**

EXPO:
LIBRARY on Thurs., Jan. 30, 6-8:30 p.m., at library, 31 Mount Saint Mary's Way, Hooksett, 485-6092. Thirty-five vendors, free product samples, door prizes, etc.
• **YEAR OF THE HORSE** event celebrating Chinese New Year at White Heron Tea, 601 Islington St., Portsmouth, on Fri., Jan. 31, 4-8 p.m. Lanterns, dragons, food, fine arts and crafts, with visiting Asian brush painter, Bruce Iverson. Free event. Call 433-8484 or email iversonarts@gmail.com for details.
• **POTTER'S BOWL FUNDRAISER** organized by the Community Caregivers on Fri., Jan. 31, 5-8 p.m., at Promises to Keep, Route 28, Derry. Tickets \$35, eat locally-made soup out of hand-crafted pottery bowl. Tickets sell out quickly. Call 432-0877 or visit temple at 58 E. Broadway during business day. Visit comcaregivers.org.

• **THE LATIN AMERICAN TAPESTRIES OF MARY MERRILL** presentation/reception on Fri., Feb. 6, 6-9 p.m., at Mariposa Museum & World Culture Center, 26 Main St., Peterborough, 924-4555, pr@mariposamuseum.org. Amy and Paul Merrill walk talk about their mother's life and journey as an artist. On view through June. Free event.
• **PECHAKUCHA NIGHT #18: HERE TODAY, GONE TOMORROW** at the Portsmouth Gas Light Company (64 Market St., Portsmouth) on Sun., Feb. 16, at 7:30 p.m. Email cladd@3sarts.org if interested in presenting, visit 3sarts.org, facebook.com/3SArtspace for more information.
• **EMPTY BOWLS** on Wed., Feb. 19, 6-8 p.m., at Nashua High School South, 10 Chuck Druding Drive, Nashua. General admission \$15. Email maguires@nashua.edu. Ninety-two percent every dollar donated to

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Seduced by Carmen

Opera NH celebrates 50 years with crowd favorite



Opera NH celebrates 50 years with *Carmen*. Photo courtesy of Jenny Kelly Productions.

By Kelly Sennott
ksennott@hippopress.com

Even people who don't know opera know *Carmen*.

To celebrate its 50th season, Opera NH members chose to open the year with a show that people know, people like and, more importantly, people will pay to see.

"We keep track of the history of our ticket sales, and *Carmen*, for some reason, seems to be a very popular show," said Faith Wilson, executive director of Opera NH, in a phone interview last week. The nonprofit again invites Teatro Lirico D'Europa to perform, accompanied by English surtitles, within Manchester's historic Palace Theatre on Saturday, Feb. 1, at 7 p.m.

Of course, *Carmen* Artistic Director/Stage Director Giorgio Lalov says it's no mystery why the opera has survived nearly 150 years since French composer Georges Bizet wrote the four acts back in 1875.

"It's very human," Lalov said. "These

operas were put together hundreds of years ago, but they're still very relevant today. *Carmen* is about love, passion, murder. ... It's all about relationships between human beings."

The opera, based on the novella of the same name by Prosper Mérimée, is about the downfall of a man named Don José, a soldier who is seduced by a sultry gypsy, Carmen, despite being engaged to his childhood sweetheart, Micaela. He becomes obsessed and gives up everything — his military duties, his career, his fiancée — for the love of the gypsy. Carmen, however, has her sights on the torador Escamillo. She taunts Don José to the point of madness.

Teatro Lirico D'Europa performed in Manchester twice last year. The company was created in 1988 by the late Yves Josse and Lalov. Since its first U.S. tour in 2000 it has visited New Hampshire many times, and thus, has performed *Carmen* many times here. Despite this, Lalov says he still becomes extremely emotional when *Carmen* takes

stage.

"It's just unbelievable that these things were made hundreds of years ago but aren't anymore," Lalov said. "Now, I have nothing against pop music, but I think that classical music is so much more human and it touches the heart."

This season, in particular, has been filled with great effort, both by Opera NH board members and by Lalov to not only keep Opera NH alive but to make it thrive through partnerships and outreach. Last year, for instance, the nonprofit collaborated with the New Hampshire Institute of Art and commissioned artwork by a local student for its program cover, a new tradition that continued this year. Opera NH also partnered with Just Love to Sing! and held its first free outdoor performance in Stark Park last August, where singers performed *Hansel & Gretel* with success. Most recently, the nonprofit collaborated again with NHIA and participated in an "Art and Soul" auction in the fall.

See *Carmen*

Where: Palace Theatre, 80 Hanover St., Manchester

When: Saturday, Feb. 1, at 7 p.m.

Admission: Tickets start at \$27.50.

Opera NH is offering discounts for students and, in addition, one hour before showtime, student rush tickets will be sold for just \$10. The seating is limited.

Contact: palacetheatre.org, 668-5588

Members and collaborators aren't slowing down anytime soon; over the phone, Lalov, who has helped build opera companies across the country, passionately talked about his plans to help Opera NH produce a show with local singers and musicians for the 2014-2015 season. The details are still very much in the works, Wilson said, but the 50-year anniversary of Opera NH, if anything, has boosted members' confidence, despite the New England companies that recently folded. (She noted Opera Boston, which closed its doors in early 2012 due to a budget deficit.)

Still, selling tickets is extremely important — between the intricate, old-fashioned costumes and the magnificent sets shows like *Carmen* require, it's incredibly expensive and requires an enormous amount of work in order to put together an operatic production. Performing opera is difficult, too, and requires rigorous practice and training from performers.

"We've made it 50 years, which gives us incentive to stick around and celebrate not only our 50th year, but to make sure we celebrate a 75th. We'd like to make people more aware of opera and produce more than just the two major shows we do now," Wilson said.

"It's an opportunity for people who love the opera to see it in New Hampshire and not have to travel far," Wilson said.

She was particularly excited to communicate that already, 60 students would be seeing the show, double the number from last year.

"I think there's a [stigma] that opera is for old people, that it's boring, and by offering comparably inexpensive tickets, it's an opportunity for people to try it out." 🍷

Nashua Soup Kitchen and Shelter. Visit nsks.org.

Exhibit openings

• **"LOVE, LUST & DESIRE"** on view at McGowan Fine Art, 10 Hills Ave., Concord, Jan. 28 through Feb. 14. Reception on Fri., Jan. 31, 5-7 p.m. Call 225-2515, visit mcgowanfineart.com.

• **"TWO WOMEN IN CLOTH AND PAINT"** exhibit at Hollis Social Library, 2 Monument Square, Hollis, on view through February. Reception on Sat., Feb. 8, at 1:30 p.m., at the Library Meeting Room. Featuring work by Audrey Augun and Paula Furlong.

• **"MONOTYPE EXHIBIT: SINGULAR EXPRESSION"**

on view now through Jan., monotypes by Annick Bouvron-Gromek, Bill Childs, Barbara Cowan, Pam Lawson and Doris Rice at Seacoast Artists Association Gallery, 225 Water St., Exeter, seacoastartist.org. Closing reception on Sat., Jan. 25, 2-4 p.m. Refreshments.

• **BRUSH GALLERY CITY COUNCIL CHAMBER**

EXHIBITION preview reception on Sat., Jan. 25, 2-4 p.m., at the Brush Gallery and Artists' Studios, 256 Market St., Lowell, 978-459-7819. Email director@thebrush.org, visit thebrush.org.

• **"ART AND BLOOM"** presented by McGowan Fine Art, 10 Hills Ave., Concord, Jan. 23 through Jan. 25. Reception on Thurs., Jan. 23, 5:30-7:30 p.m.

Presented by Concord Garden Club, featuring floral arrangements inspired by artwork.

In the galleries

• **AMARANTHIA GITTENS-JONES** shows her art at the NHTI Library, 31 College Drive, Concord, through Jan. 31. Email amasepiachanworks@gmail.com. Call 230-4028 to confirm

hours. (Regular hours Monday-Thursday, 7:30 a.m.-7 p.m., Friday 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m., Saturday 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Sunday noon-9 p.m.) iamproudofwhoiam.com.

• **"ART AMONG US"** features work of the board, teachers and committee members of Main Street Art at 75 Main St., Newfields, through Jan. 31. Visit newfieldsart.org.



THE LARAMIE PROJECT

Presented in conjunction with the Derry Arts Council, the Majestic Academy presents *The Laramie Project* on Thursday, Jan. 23, at 7 p.m.; Friday, Jan. 24, at 7 p.m.; and Saturday, Jan. 25, at 2 p.m., at the Derry Opera House, 29 W. Broadway, Derry. The play is about the murder of 21-year-old University of Wyoming student Matthew Shepard, a guy who was allegedly killed because he was gay. The show is based on the real-life interviews that Moisés Kaufman and the Members of Tectonic Theater Project made while traveling to Laramie, Wyoming, six times over the course of a year and a half. They conducted more than 200 interviews, some of which were with people directly connected with the case. Tickets are \$12 for adults, \$10 for seniors 65 and older. The show is rated PG-13. Visit majestictheatre.net or call 669-7469 for tickets. Pictured, the cast of *The Laramie Project*. Courtesy photo.

- **BRUCE MCCOLL AND MATT BROWN** exhibit at Labelle Winery, Amherst, through Jan. 2014. Call 672-9898, email michelle@labellewinerynh.com.
- **NICK MCCARTHY-DONOVAN** shows "Big Wild Cats of Africa; Lions, Leopards and Cheetahs" and "Wolves, Call of the Wild" at Mogi's Hair Salon & Art Gallery, 383 Dunstable Road, Nashua, through Jan.
- **MICHAEL MOORE** shows art at Hancock Town Library, 25 Main St., Hancock, Jan. 4 through Feb. 13, during regular library hours. Call 525-4411 before visiting.
- **"SMALL, MEDIUM, LARGE"** art show with every size, every price, every style, at Art 3 Gallery, 44 W. Brook St., Manchester, on view Dec. 2 through Jan. 31.
- **"CALENDAR YEAR"** on view at The Studio, 50 Canal St., Laconia, through Feb. 1. Hours Wednesday through Friday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Saturday, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Call 455-8008. Gallery show celebrating first year of business.
- **"JOHN SHEARER: RETROSPECTIVE OF A PHOTOGRAPHER"** on view at the Hargate Gallery, St. Paul's School, 325 Pleasant St., Concord, 229-4644, Jan. 20 through Feb. 15. Gallery hours Tuesday through Saturday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- **"LIGHT AND SHADOW"** exhibit at the Children's Museum of New Hampshire, 6 Washington St., Dover, 742-2002, childrens-museum.org, Dec. 7 through March 1. Photography, weaving, drawing, painting, 3D installments. Free admission for gallery only.
- **NH FURNITURE MASTERS WINTER SHOW** on view at the NHFMA gallery, 49 S. Main St., Concord, now through March 10. Visit furnituremasters.org.

- **"HOME, SCHOOL AND STUDIO: WOMEN ARTISTS AND NEW HAMPSHIRE"** on view at the New Hampshire Historical Society museum, 6 Eagle Square, Concord, through March 30. Admission \$5.50, call 228-6688, visit nhhistory.org.
- **"MOUNTAIN SCENERY"** on view at the New Hampshire Historical Society museum, 6 Eagle Square, Concord, through March 30. Admission \$5.50, call 228-6688, visit nhhistory.org.

Theater

- **THE DEVIL'S MUSIC: THE LIFE AND BLUES OF BESSIE SMITH** shows at the Merrimack Repertory Theatre, 132 Warren St., Lowell, Mass., 978-654-7550, mrt.org, runs through Feb. 2. Tickets start at \$20.
- **XANADU** at the Palace Theatre, 80 Hanover St., Manchester, Jan. 10 through Jan. 25. Tickets \$15-\$45. Call 668-5588, visit palacetheatre.org.
- **LE PETIT PRINCE** by Antoine de Saint-Exupéry at the Seacoast Repertory Theatre, 125 Bow St., Portsmouth, Jan. 10 through Jan. 26. Tickets \$24. Call 431-6644, ext. 5, or email reservations@nhtheatreproject.org.
- **THE GREAT AMERICAN TRAILER PARK MUSICAL** performed by the Rochester Opera House Productions at the Rochester Opera House, City Hall, 31 Wakefield St., Rochester, through Feb. 2. Tickets \$16-\$20. Call 335-1992.
- **FINDING THE PRINCE** at West End Studio Theatre, 959 Islington St., Portsmouth, Jan. 10 through Jan. 26, Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m., Sundays at 2 p.m. General admission \$24. Call 431-6644, ext. 5, email reservations@nhtheatreproject.org.
- **THE LARAMIE PROJECT** presented by Majestic Academy of Dramatic Arts, presented in

conjunction with Derry Greater Arts Council, on Thurs., Jan. 23, at 7 p.m.; Fri., Jan. 24, at 7 p.m.; and Sat., Jan. 25, at 2 p.m., at Derry Opera House, 29 W. Broadway Derry. Tickets \$12 adults, \$10 seniors and youth. Show rated PG-13. Visit majestictheatre.net, call 669-7469.

- **NHYE WINTER CONCERT** at Manchester Community Music School, 2291 Elm St., Manchester, on Sat., Jan. 25, at 1 p.m. Free. Call 644-4548, visit memusicsschool.org.
- **MASKED MARVELS & WONDERTALES** at the Capitol Center for the Arts, 44 S. Main St., Concord, on Sun., Jan. 26, at 1 and 4 p.m. For all ages. Tickets \$20. Call 225-1111, visit ccanh.com.
- **DORKS IN DUNGEONS** presents *The Yorgenbach Fall* or *The Relevant Elegant Cellophane Elephant* on Sun., Jan. 26, at 7 p.m., at Seacoast Repertory Theatre, 125 Bow St., Portsmouth, 433-4793, seacoastrep.org. Tickets pay what you can at door, \$12 for pre-ordered.
- **TIMBER** by Cirque Alfonse, Acadian music, juggling axes, acrobatic stunts, at Dana Center for the Humanities, 100 Saint Anselm Drive, Manchester, on Sat., Jan. 25, at 7:30 p.m. Tickets \$33.75. Call 641-7700, email dana@anselm.edu.
- **TEMPTRESS** at The Players' Ring, 105 Marcy St., Portsmouth, 436-8123, playersring.org, Jan. 24 through Feb. 9, with shows on Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m., Sunday, Jan. 26, at 7 p.m., and Sundays, Feb. 2 and 9 at 2 p.m. Tickets \$15 general, \$12 students.
- **SLEEPING BEAUTY** presented by Nureyev Ballet on Tues., Feb. 4, at 7 p.m., at Capitol Center for the Arts, 44 S. Main St., Concord. \$20-\$58.
- **A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM** inaugural "Shakespeare in the Snow" performance by Cara Chameleon Club

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Notes from the theater scene

• **Calling bugle corps members:** There's an open rehearsal hosted by the Muchachos Drum and Bugle Corps on Sunday, Feb. 9, from 12:30 to 5:30 p.m., at the Brady Sullivan Tower, 1750 Elm St., Manchester, according to a release. Membership is open to anyone and everyone age 14 and older, with experience in marching band or drum corps helpful but not required. Visit muchachos.org or call 978-743-9584 for more information.

• **Jeanine Tousignant steps down:** Manchester Community Music School President of the Board of Directors Dennis Haley announced in a newsletter that after 10 years at the school, MCMS CEO Jeanine Tousignant is stepping down from her position on June 27 to fulfill her long-time dream of starting her own organizational and fundraising consulting firm.

"Please know this decision was not made lightly and has been in deep consideration for some time. I have always had an entrepreneurial spirit, evidenced by starting new initiatives at many organizations, and through my role as the first Director of Development at 3 organizations including MCMS," Tousignant wrote in a letter. "I truly love MCMS, the mission, the students, families, faculty, staff and Board and will always be connected to the school. However, the time in my life is right to start this life-long dream of my own new venture."

• **NH Theater awards:** It's a big week for New Hampshire theater — the coveted 12th Annual New Hampshire Theatre Awards are this Saturday, Jan. 25, at 7 p.m., at the Stockbridge Theatre at Pinkerton Academy, 5 Pinkerton St., Derry. In its second year at the Stockbridge location, the awards show is nearly sold out, but the rest of the tickets will be sold at the front door the night of the show. Top 10 finalists can be viewed at nhtheatreawards.com.

on Fri., Feb. 7, at 7 p.m.; Sat., Feb. 8, at 6:30 p.m.; Sun., Feb. 9, at 2 p.m.; Fri., Feb. 14, at 7 p.m.; Sat., Feb. 15, at 6:30 p.m.; and Sun., Feb. 16, at 2 p.m. Tickets \$20. 207-358-9887, theatreunmasked.com, info@theatreunmasked.com.

• **BRILLIANT TRACES** by Cindy Lou Johnson at the Janice B. Streeter Theater, 14 Court St., Nashua, on Thurs., Feb. 6, at 8 p.m.; Fri., Feb. 7, at 8 p.m.; Sat., Feb. 8, at 2 and 8 p.m.; and Sun., Feb. 9, at 2 p.m. Tickets \$15, call 880-0243 or visit Nashua Theatre Guild's Facebook page.

• **DEFENDING THE CAVE-MAN** Valentine's Day show on Fri., Feb. 14, at 8 p.m., at Capitol Center for the Arts, 44 S. Main St., Concord. Tickets \$35-\$45, visit ccanh.com, call 225-1111. About the ways men and women relate to one another.

• **KONG'S NIGHT OUT** presented by Community Players of Concord on Fri., Feb. 14, at 7:30 p.m.; Sat., Feb. 15, at 7:30 p.m.; & Sun., Feb. 16, at 2 p.m. Tickets \$14-\$16.

• **DIVAS THROUGH THE DECADES** Feb. 14 through March 1 at the Palace Theatre,

80 Hanover St., Manchester. Tickets \$15-\$45. Call 668-5588, visit palacetheatre.org.

• **ANDREW PINARD: DISCOVERING MAGIC** at Red River Theatres, 11 S. Main St., Concord, on Wed., Feb. 12, at 8 p.m.; Wed., March 12, at 8 p.m.; Wed., April 9, at 8 p.m.; and Wed., June 11, at 8 p.m. Tickets \$15. Call 224-4697, visit redrivertheatres.org.

• **RHYTHM OF THE DANCE** performance by the National Dance Theatre of Ireland on Fri., Feb. 14, at 7:30 p.m., at Dana Center for the Humanities, 100



The Muchachos Drum & Bugle Corps is seeking additional members, with open rehearsals on Sunday, Feb. 9. Courtesy photo.

At the beginning of the show, the top three will be announced, followed by the winners' announcements. Call 786-529-2737 for more information.

• **Shakespeare in the snow:** Dover wanted more arts in the city, so Cara Chameleon Club and theatre.unmasked gave it to them. They "band together" and present the inaugural Shakespeare in the Snow! event, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, on Friday, Feb. 7, at 7 p.m.; Saturday, Feb. 8, at 6:30 p.m.; Sunday, Feb. 9, at 2 p.m.; Friday, Feb. 14, at 7 p.m.; Saturday, Feb. 15, at 6:30 p.m.; and Sunday, Feb. 16, at 2 p.m., at the Cara Chameleon Club, upstairs at the Cara Irish Pub & Restaurant, 11 Fourth St., Dover. Tickets are \$20. Visit theatreunmasked.com, call 207-358-9887.

• **Prescott Park meets \$100,000 Campaign Challenge:** The Portsmouth Park Arts Festival met the \$100,000 challenge from the Thomas W. Haas Fund of the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation, which brings the organization's total campaign dollars to \$950,000, according to a press release. In addition, the project met a turning point of construction; the demolition of the old concessions building is complete, making way for the excavation to start at the new pavilion building that will house an updated concession area, more public bathrooms and protective/removable storage covering that will allow for lighting and sound upgrades. To date, more than 550 donors have contributed to the campaign. For more information, call 436-2848 or email megan@prescottpark.org. — Kelly Sennott 🍀



THE APPLE HILL STRING QUARTET

The Keiser Concert Series of St. Paul's School, Concord, presents The Apple Hill String Quartet on Friday, Jan. 24, at 7:30 p.m., at the Oates Performing Arts Center/Music Building on St. Paul's Campus, 325 Pleasant St., Concord. The quartet, who have earned accolades from all over the world for their mastery of traditional repertoire like Haydn, Mozart, Schubert, Schumann, Beethoven and Ravel, have performed across the United States, Europe, the Middle

East and Asia. Admission is free for all. Call 229-4680 or visit sps.edu/keiser for more information. Pictured, the Apple Hill String Quartet. Courtesy photo.

Saint Anselm Drive, Manchester. Tickets \$33.75. Call 641-7700, email dana@anselm.edu.

Auditions/open calls

• **9TH ANNUAL PLAYWRITING WORKSHOP AND FESTIVAL AUDITIONS** showcases four new plays written by five students, auditions for more than 20 speaking roles on Sun., Jan. 26, 1-4 p.m., at Boys and Girls Club, 56 Mont Vernon St., Milford. Also seeking students interested in stage management, crew. Performances March 13 and 14 at Amato Center for the Performing Arts. Contact Toby Tarnow at tobytarnow@yahoo.com, 465-3456.

• **MAJESTIC THEATRE AUDITIONS** for *Deadly Image*, on Sun., Jan. 26, at 3 p.m., and Wed., Jan. 29, at 6 p.m. at 922 Elm St., Suite 315, downtown Manchester, majestictheatre.net, 669-7469. Visit the site or call for audition requirements and to schedule audition time.

• **MAJESTIC THEATRE YOUTH AUDITIONS** for *Adventures of a Comic Book Artist* directed by Becky Rush on Sat., Jan. 25, at 10 a.m., for youth ages 7 to 15, at 922 Elm St., Suite 315, downtown Manchester. Visit majestictheatre.net for audition requirement and to schedule time. Call 669-7469.

• **LEDDY CENTER GUYS AND DOLLS** auditions on Sat., Feb. 8, 3-5 p.m., at Leddy Center, 38C Ladd's Lane, Epping, info@leddycenter.org, leddycenter.org, 679-2781.

• **ACTORSINGERS AUDITIONS** for *The Music Man* at Actorsinger Hall, 219 Lake St., Nashua, actorsingers.org, for children's parts on Sat., Feb. 8, 2-4 p.m.; adult auditions on Sun., Feb. 9, 6-9 p.m., and Mon., Feb. 10, 7-9 p.m. Prepare 16 bars of any song, learn short dance. Those auditioning for named roles will be asked to do reading from show.

Classical

• **PORTLAND SPRING QUARTET** performs at North Church, Market Square, Portsmouth, on Thurs., Jan. 23, at 4 p.m. Free. Call 431-2538, visit portsmouthathenaeum.org, portlandstringquartet.org, northchurchportsmouth.org.

• **SNHU CONCERT SERIES: STEPHEN DRURY** performance on Thurs., Jan. 23, at 7 p.m., at SNHU Banquet Hall, 2500 N. River Road, Manchester. His performance will include Basic Training by Lee Hyla; Ballade #1 in g minor by Frederic Chopin; North American Ballade #2 (Down by the Riverside) by Frederic Rzewski; Carny by John Zorn; fardanceCLOSE by Chaya Czernowin; and Riff and Transfiguration by Lee Hyla. Free event. Visit snhucalendar.snhu.edu, call 629-4626.

• **JAZZ IN JANUARY** concert on Fri., Jan. 24, at 7 and 9 p.m., at Concord Community Music School, 23 Wall St., Concord. Musicians of Wall Street Jazz Ensemble: Matt Langley, Richard Gardzina, saxophones; David Tonkin, guitar; Don Williams, bass; John Faggiano, Tim Gilmore, drums; Tom Robinson, piano. Refreshments provided by Hermanos Cocina Mexicana. Tickets \$20 adults, \$15 students, registration required. Call 228-1196, visit ccmusicsschool.org.

• **WINTER ROLLINSFORD RAMBLE** event featuring Susie Burke and David Surette on Sat., Jan. 25, at Garrison Players Arts Center, 650 Portland Ave., Rollinsford, featuring singers and songwriters of the Seacoast area. Tickets \$15 for adults, \$12 for students, visit garrisonplayers.org, call 207-384-8151.

• **UNH CONCERT CHOIR** at Johnson Theatre, Paul Creative Arts Center, 30 Academic Way, Durham, on Sat., Jan. 25, at 7 p.m. Free.

• **"FOREVER YOUNG"** Symphony NH concert featuring cellist Sergey Antonov on Sat., Jan. 25, at 8 p.m., at Keefe Auditorium, 117 Elm St., Nashua. Tickets \$12-\$48. Call 595-9156, visit symphonynh.org.

• **ERIC ALEXANDER QUARTET WITH HAROLD MABERN** event on., Jan. 27, at 8 p.m., at Johnson Theater, Paul Creative Arts Center, 30 Academic Way, Durham. Tickets \$8. Call 862-7222

• **GREGG PAULEY** puts on concert series, "What's in a Name" is on Fri., Jan. 31, at 7:30 p.m., at 23 Wall St., Concord, 228-1196, ccmusicsschool.org. Tickets \$15. Part of series of 32 piano sonatas over three years. Visit greggpauley.com.

• **DUO VERSUS** concert on Sat., Feb. 1, at 7 p.m., at Paul Creative Arts Center, Johnson Theatre, 30 Academic Way, Durham. Two like-minded musicians perform with violin, accordion, tickets \$30, \$10 UNH student with ID, visit unharts.com, 862-7222.

• **UNH CHAMBER SINGERS** perform on Sun., Feb. 2, at 3 p.m., at the Johnson Theater, Paul Creative Arts Center, 30 Academic Way, Durham. Free event. Call 862-2404.

• **NICHOLAS OROVICH AND ARLENE KIES** play the trombone, piano, at Verette Recital Hall, Paul Creative Arts Center, 30 Academic Way, Durham, on Tues., Feb. 4, at 8 p.m. Part of UNH Dept. of Music Faculty Concert Series. Free, open to public.

• **RED HOT CHILLI PIPERS** Bagpipes with attitude, concert Thurs., Feb. 6, at 7:30 p.m., at Capitol Center for the Arts, 44 S. Main St., Concord, 225-1111, ccanh.com. Tickets free, reservations required. Call to make reservations ahead of time.

• **GUITAR PASSION** with Sharon Isbin, Stanley Jordan and Romero Lubambo on Thurs., Feb. 6, at 7:30 p.m., at the Music Hall Historic Theater, 28 Chestnut St., Portsmouth. Evening of classical, Latin, Brazilian and jazz. Tickets \$46.25, \$40.25. Call 436-2400, visit themusicall.org.

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From yoga to pilates, cooking to

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a rundown of all area events and

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hippopress.com at least three

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INSIDE/OUTSIDE Fashion with a flair

Show features environmentally friendly designs

By Kaitlin Joseph
kjoseph@hippopress.com

Designer Alyssa Couture is hoping to represent a whole new world of fashion at her upcoming Alternative Fashion 2014 show.

"Alternative Fashion supports eco-fashion designers and local, neighboring, global fashion and holistic businesses that are providing a healthy lifestyle for the future of fashion," Couture said.

According to Couture, the main focus of the show is to market to people who are interested in an alternative fashion industry. The event is her attempt to create a more holistic, health-conscious environment of fashion where consumers can see and buy products that are natural, organic and ethically made.

"We believe that when everyone is inspired by the power of beautiful, creative and natural fashion and design, the toxic fashion world may be resolved in a sufficient manner," Couture said. "Alternative fashion is an important part of achieving a healthy lifestyle."

The show will feature Couture's own business, Fashion Elements, which she said avoids the toxic chemicals, synthetic fashion, fashion waste and unfair trade and labor that can be typical of the general fashion industry.

"It's really sad. There's so many segments and elements that become corrupt," Couture said. "We need to present a plan and not develop so much waste. A lot of these fibers are not biodegradable."

Ecolissa, an online store based in Nashua, will be participating in the fashion show.

"We will be showing some great dresses and tops from EcoSkin, Mata Traders, Elroy, and Threads 4 Thought in the fashion show," said Ecolissa founder Melissa Dion. "We will also be bringing lots of accessories from Green Tree Jewelry, Project Have Hope, Organic Tagua Jewelry, and Urban Lace. We're looking forward to what prom-

ises to be a fun and fashionable day."

Ecolissa carries only eco-friendly and vegan women's clothing, as well as accessories made of sustainable materials like organic cotton and hemp.

"I met Alyssa at the Natural Living Expo in November, and she thought Ecolissa would fit in well with her eco fashion show," Dion said. "We love working with other environmentally minded companies, so we jumped at the opportunity."

Couture was inspired to create the event after an eco-fashion week in Vancouver.

"What they're doing is presenting eco-fashion and a lecture. It was part education, part fashion. It's a way for them to reach the public in a really diverse way."

While the event is a fashion show, Couture said the show also features three speakers: Martha Jackson, founder of Restored By Design; Priya Samant, founder of Earth Frenz; and Thandi Tshabangu-Soko, director of Sew Confidence.

"Thandi, the director of Sew Confidence, has a prestigious organization that is empowering refugee and immigrant women, creating fashion accessories. Their mission is to develop socially responsible fashion for the well-being of our world," Couture said. "Earth Frenz is a brand of visionary fashion accessories. Earth Frenz builds self-empowerment and socio-eco-



Dresses by Ecoskin (left) and Threads 4 Thought will be featured at the show. Photos courtesy of Ecolissa.



nomie development for the talented artisans in impoverished areas in India."

Martha Jackson of Restored By Design works with recycled materials and manufactures locally.

"[She] has dedicated herself to eco fashion design among all of her design, work and ethical practices of her business," Couture said.

The show will feature several vendors and samples of healthy, natural food products.

Shawn Starkweather of Om Frequency will perform live music. 🎵

Alternative Fashion 2014, Eco Fashion Show Event

What: An eco-friendly fashion show with vendors and speakers

When: Saturday, Feb. 1, from 4 to 8 p.m.

Where: Southern New Hampshire University, Dining Banquet Hall, 2500 N. River Road, Manchester.

Why: Representing and promoting the eco-fashion industry

Cost: Tickets are \$20

Designers and retailers

Alyssa Couture

Earth Frenz

Ecolissa

Peaceful Fashions

Restored By Design

My Heidi Bag

OutFITters Thrift Store

Sew Confidence

Vintage Re-Bloomed

Speakers

Martha Jackson, Restored By Design founder

Priya Samant, Earth Frenz founder

Thandi Tshabangu-Soko, director of Sew Confidence



Alyssa Couture's Alternative Fashion Show will be on Saturday, Feb. 1. Courtesy photo.

“
Alternative fashion is
an important part of
achieving a healthy
lifestyle.”

ALYSSA COUTURE

KIDDIE — POOL —

Family fun for the weekend

Hands-on fun

The SEE Science Center (200 Bedford Street, Manchester, 669-0400, see-science-center.org) will host a family workshop on Saturday, Jan. 25, from 11 a.m. to noon and Sunday, Jan. 26, from 2 to 3 p.m. for families to come and create a balloon rocket. The project is geared toward children ages 6 to 10 and should take 15 to 40 minutes. Staff will be available to assist.

The League of NH Craftsmen will have an Introduction to Zentangle class on Saturday, Jan. 25, from 10 a.m. to noon. The class is open for ages 12 and up and will be held at the Nashua Gallery (98 Main St., Nashua). The class is \$20 and materials are \$10.

Kalily Studio (27 Huckins Road, Epsom, kalilystudio.com) will host a never-ending scrapbooking card class on Sunday, Jan. 26, from 2 to 4 p.m. Cost is \$12 to make one card, \$15 to make two.

The Muse Paintbar (42 Hanover Street, Manchester, 421-6500, musepaintbar.com) will have a family painting day to paint Pre-historic Dawn on Sunday, Jan. 26, from 7:30 to 10 p.m. The cost is \$39. Call to register.

Run for food

The Henniker Hot Chocolate 5K will take place at the Henniker Community School (51 Western Avenue, Henniker) on Satur-



day, Jan. 25, from 9 a.m. to noon. The cost is \$25. There will be free hot chocolate and gingerbread cookies for all participants after the race. Contact Scott Duval at scott@fasteventsnh.com.

Games galore

The Kelley Library (234 Main Street, Salem, 898-7064, salem.lib.nh.us) is hosting a board game day for children to play all different kinds of board games and learn new ones on Saturday, Jan. 25, from 10 a.m. to noon.

The Rodgers Memorial Library (194 Derry Road, Hudson, 886-6030, rodgerslibrary.org) will have a marshmallow game day on Saturday, Jan. 25, from 9 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. Kids will play games with marshmallows as well as creating fun crafts.

Movie madness

The Manchester Public Library at West Branch (76 N. Main Street, Manchester, 624-6560, manchester.lib.nh.us) will show Mary Poppins on Friday, Jan. 24, at 3 p.m.

The Nashua Public Library (2 Court Street, Nashua, 589-4600, nashualibrary.org) will show Hercules as its family film this weekend on Saturday, Jan. 25, from 2 to 3:35 p.m. 🍿

Events

• CASTAWAY CHALLENGE

The Concord Library (45 Green St., Concord, 230-3682, concordlibrary.org) will have a recycling challenge on Thursdays at 3:30 p.m. on Jan. 23, Feb. 27 and March 27.

• **JOIN GIRL SCOUTS** Leach Library (276 Mammoth Road, Londonderry) will host an information night on Thurs., Jan. 30, from 5:30 to 7 p.m. for those interested in joining girl scouts. Visit girlscoutsgwm.org or call 888-474-9686.

• **GIRL SCOUT INFORMATIONAL MEETING** Dudley Tucker Library (6 Epping St., Raymond, 716-1223, epoirier@girlscoutsgwm.org) will hold an informational meeting for girl scouts on Thurs., Jan. 30, from 4 to 6 p.m.

• **MEET THE BERENSTAIN BEARS** The Children's Museum (6 Washington St., Dover, 742-2002, childrens-museum.org) will host an event with the berenstain bears on Sat., Feb. 1, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The book series will be read and there will be games and crafts. Admission

is \$9, free for museum members.

• **ELF ON THE SHELF** at Barnes & Noble (Manchester, 668-0022) on Sat., Feb. 1, at 11 a.m. will be a birthday tradition storytime and activity day.

• **LOVE MONSTER** at Barnes & Noble (Manchester, 668-0022) on Sat., Feb. 8, at 11 a.m. It will be a storytime, activity day with a hair, googly-eyed monster.

• **THE CREATIVITY CAN** at Barnes and Noble (Manchester, 668-0022) on Sun., Feb. 9, at 11 a.m. Kids can come in and let their creativity out and do activities.

• **EXPLORING OUR WAY** AUTISM The Children's Museum (6 Washington St., Dover, 742-2002, childrens-museum.org) encourages families with autism to come to the museum free of charge on Sun., Feb. 9, from 10 a.m. to noon.

• **MOTHER-DAUGHTER BOOK CLUB** for kids in grades 4 through 8 at the Kingston Library (2 Library Lane, Kingston, 642-3521, kingston-library.org) will meet to discuss *Chained*, Tues., Feb. 11, 6 p.m.

• KIDS VALENTINE NIGHT

The Children's Museum (6 Washington St., Dover, 742-2002, childrens-museum.org) will have an event for Valentines day with a scavenger hunt, crafts and science activities on Sun., Feb. 14, from 5:30 to 9:30 p.m. Food will be provided. Registration is required. \$30 per child.

• **VALENTINES TEA PARTY** at the Kingston Library (2 Library Lane, Kingston, 642-3521, kingston-library.org) will take place on Fri., Feb. 14, at 11 a.m. Ages 3 and up are welcome to listen to Valentines Day stories and enjoy tea or juice.

Crafts

Jewelry/beading

• **CARNIVAL FELT NECKLACE** The League of NH Craftsmen (279 DW Highway, Meredith, 279-7920, nhcrafts.org) will have a felt necklace class on Sat., Jan. 25, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Cost is \$45 with a \$5 material fee. Registration is required.

• **ZIGZAG BRICK STITCH BRACELET** The League of NH Craftsmen (98 Main St.,

Ladies' Night
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Old car is having trouble with its get-up-and-go



Dear Tom and Ray:

I have a 1979 Jeep CJ-7 with a 5-liter V-8 engine. The ignition switch is the type commonly used in vehicles of this vintage, and it's located on the steering column. It has an "accessory-only" position; an ignition-on, "run" position; and a spring-loaded, "crank" position, which activates the starter motor as long as you hold the key there. When I go to start the engine, I turn the ignition switch to the "crank" position, and the starter motor cranks normally. But the engine will not start until after I release the key and it springs back to the ignition-on, "run" position. I wired a remote starter switch directly into the starter solenoid and tried starting

the car with that. And as long as the ignition switch was in the "run" position, I could make the starter motor crank and the engine fire up normally while the starter motor was still turning. Any ideas? — Michael

RAY: The first thing I'd suspect and test would be a bad ignition switch in the steering column.

TOM: What you want to do is test that "crank" position. When the key is in the crank position, both the starter motor and the coil are supposed to get power.

RAY: The starter motor, obviously, gets power to crank the engine and get it turning. And the coil gets power to fire the spark plugs, so that once the engine starts turning, it will "catch" and keep running on its own. You're obviously getting juice to the starter motor in the "crank" position, but maybe not to the coil.

TOM: You can find out with a test light. You obviously have some basic skills, since you hooked up a remote starter without setting your car on fire ... yet. So hook up the light between the negative terminal of the battery and the positive (ignition) side of the coil. Then turn the key to "crank." My guess is that nothing will light up.

RAY: That suggests that the ignition

switch is bad. So your next step would be to try a new switch. But, as you know and undoubtedly toss and turn at night thinking about, changing the ignition switch in the CJ-7 is a pain the rear differential.

TOM: So try a new switch without installing it first. You should be able to reach under the steering column, unplug the wires that go into the existing switch and then plug those wires into your new switch, which you'll leave dangling from the wires for now.

RAY: Then use a screwdriver to turn the new switch and see what happens. If it works, you can then remove the steering wheel and all that, and install the new switch.

Dear Tom and Ray:

I've got a question that arises from time to time in my office. Oftentimes, we need to visit faraway cities and towns within the state for meetings and the like (and long lunches). They give us two options: We can get a per-mile reimbursement if we use our own car, or we can rent a car. I know that the reimbursement allowance is to cover wear and tear as well as gas, so how do I value said wear and tear? — Kyle

RAY: I would always rent a car, Kyle.

TOM: Sure. Most companies, and the fed-

eral government, will reimburse mileage at 55 or 60 cents a mile.

RAY: But trust me, you're not going to make money on that deal. At best, you'll break even. Every year, the IRS calculates the average cost of owning, maintaining and repairing a car, and divides that by the average number of miles driven to get the mileage reimbursement.

TOM: And sure, it's nice to get that reimbursement check now, because it's always more than you spent on the gas — so it seems like a windfall. But that's money you will need for future repairs, and you're essentially borrowing from the future of your car.

RAY: Plus, there's some wear and tear that's just not calculatable. What if Selma the slob from sales spills her venti skim latte on your front seat? ... Or what if you have an accident? Sure, you probably have insurance to cover the cost, but what about the deductible and the inconvenience?

TOM: Whereas if you use a rental car, I can guarantee that there will be absolutely no wear and tear on your car. Plus, you get to drive a reliable, new car that your kids haven't turned into a rolling junk pit yet. That's how I'd roll.

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PATRICK PASS

Patrick Pass will be at Londonderry High School (295 Mammoth Road, Londonderry, 207-871-7876, londonderry.org/lhs) with other former New England Patriot players on Saturday, Jan. 25, at 1 p.m. for the school's annual Alumni Charity Basketball game. Tickets are \$10.

nhcrafts.org) will have a valentine zentangle artwork project on Sat., Feb. 8, from 10 to noon. Cost is \$20 and materials are \$10. Ages 12 and up.

• **SOAP MAKING WORKSHOP** The Nature Cafe at Massabesic (26 Deerneck Road, Auburn, 668-2045, nhaudubon.org) will have a soap making workshop on Sat., Feb. 15, from 1 to 3 p.m. Cost is \$15 members and \$25 non-member, plus a \$5 material fee.

Miscellaneous

Fundraisers

• **PATRICK PASS** Londonderry High School (295 Mammoth Road, Londonderry, 207-871-7876, londonderry.org/lhs) will host Patrick Pass and other former New England Patriot players on Sat., Jan. 25, at 1 p.m. for its annual Alumni Charity Basketball game. Tickets are \$10.

• **TWOS FOR TERRY** Ever-Proven CrossFit (383 Central Ave., Dover) is holding a competition fundraiser on Sun., Jan. 26, at 9 a.m. The fundraiser will benefit a family fighting cancer.

Expos/festivals/fairs

• **ENERGY FAIR AND ART SHOW** The Retreat on Elm (913 Elm St., Manchester, 219-6211, retreatonelm.com) will have a fair on Sat., Jan. 25, from 6 to 9 p.m. Tickets are \$20. There will be numerous kinds of readings.

• **HOLISTIC FAIR** Country Inn and Suites (250 South River Road, Bedford, today-snewdawn@yahoo.com) will host a holistic fair on Sun., Feb. 9, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Pop culture

• **ALTERNATIVE FASHION SHOW** at Southern New Hampshire University (North River Road, Manchester) on Feb. 1, from 4 to 8 p.m. Tickets are \$20. Visit alysaleecouture.com.

• **VOICES FROM THE BACK STAIRS** at the Nashua Public Library (2 Court St., Nashua, 589-4600, nashualibrary.org) will be interest all Downton Abbey fans as Jennifer Purstz talks about servants in New England on Thurs., Feb. 6, from 7 to 9 p.m. This event is free.

Games

• **GLOBAL GAME JAM NHTI** (Concord) will host a game event for programmers, artists and musicians worldwide on Jan. 24 through the 26. Each site will create a game with a secret theme. Contact Greg Walek gwalek@ccsnh.edu or visit globalgamejam.org.

Other

• **THE LETTER** Birch Heights (7 Kendall Pond Road, Derry, 425-7755, birchheights.com) will host a presentation on Sat., Jan. 25, at 11 a.m. to help families get their house in order and create their own living legacy. Register by calling 425-7755.

• **STORM PROOFING YOUR PROPERTY** The Chester Public Library (3 Chester St., Chester, 887-3404, chesterlibrary.com) will host Fred Dorman from UNH to talk about preventing storm damage on Mon., Jan. 27, at 6:30 p.m.

• **STORM PROOFING YOUR PROPERTY** at the Derry Public Library (64 E. Broadway, Derry, 432-6140, derrypl.org) on Wed., Jan. 29, at 6:30 p.m. Fred Borman will give a presentation on the effects of wind, ice and snow on trees and your house.

• **LADIES NIGHT** The Hooksett Library (31 Mt. St. Mary's Way, Hooksett, 485-6092, hooksettlibrary.org) will have a ladies night out event on Thurs., Jan. 30, from 6 to 8:30 p.m. There will be 35 vendors with jewelry, accessories and beauty products.

• **ALMOST PSYCHIC** at the Pontine's West End Studio Theatre (959 Islington St., Portsmouth, 436-6660, pontine.org) brings Roderick Russell, a mind reader, stage hypnotist and sword swallower, to perform on Sat., Feb. 1, at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$24.

Travel & culture

• **MULTICULTURAL CLUB EXHIBITION** The Rodgers Library (194 Derry Road, Hudson, 886-6030, rodgerslibrary.org) will have a exhibition from the Alvirne High School Multicultural Club on Wed., Jan. 29, from 6 to 9 p.m. where they will display information and artifacts from their culture.

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IN/OUT THE GARDENING GUY

Getting through the doldrums

Experimenting with forcing blossoms early

By Henry Homeyer
listings@hippopress.com

When pruning a Merrill magnolia last November, I brought home a few stems that had nice fat flower buds and put them in a vase of water. I put them in a south-facing window and pretty much forgot about them. From time to time I admired the smooth gray bark and handsome branching patterns. But in the first week of January, those stems developed lovely green leaves! And the flower buds are swelling and look as if they might bloom, too.

Forcing blossoms of tree branches (making them bloom early indoors) is normally something I do in March, when I am pruning apple trees. I always bring in some branches and enjoy both the leaves and flowers of stems I have cut. At that time of year the trees are already “thinking” about opening up their buds, and it only takes a week or two for them to open up on a sunny windowsill.

But this year, I am going to cut apples, forsythia, lilacs and other spring-blooming trees and shrubs starting now. Each week I shall snip a few branches and experiment with forcing. I have never tried forcing lilacs, for example, and since they are mid-to late-spring bloomers, I would normally hold off until nearer the time that they normally break dormancy — perhaps in April. But why not try now? I have read that one can encourage branches to break dormancy by submerging them entirely in a bathtub of water.

When you select branches for forcing, be sure to pick some that have flower buds. Flower buds are generally fatter than leaf buds. On apple trees, flowers are generally found on fruit spurs. These are 2- or 3-inch long stems that end in fat buds. The buds contain both leaf and flower buds. For many varieties, fruit spurs must be more than a year old in order to produce flowers (and hence fruit). Last year's water sprouts (vertical whips) on apples will produce leaves but not flowers.

Almost any tree can be forced, but many do not have flowers that are colorful, so we often ignore them. Do you know what a maple or poplar blossom looks like? Their small green flowers are not much appreciated, and I have never cut them to put in a vase. You recognize pussy willows as signs of spring, but do you think of those furry fellows as flowers?

For best results, cut stems of trees according to their natural schedule. That means picking early bloomers now, and later bloomers in February and March. Here is a rough schedule: In January cut forsythia, willows and poplars. In early February cut red maples, alder, quince, birch and cherries. Later in February try rhododendrons, azaleas and pussy willows. Then in March try cutting branch-



Tomato and avocado growing together. Photo by Henry Homeyer.

es of hawthorns, shrub honeysuckles, apples, crabapples, mockorange, lilacs, and spirea.

Elsewhere in the house I was recently surprised by a tomato plant that appeared in a pot where I have an avocado growing. The avocado was one that I dug out of the compost pile last fall, along with a tomato seed, apparently. Most grocery store avocados do not have viable seeds, as the seeds need to be fresh (picked within three weeks of planting) in order to grow.

I remember as a boy suspending an avocado seed in a glass of water by toothpicks. It sent roots down into the glass, and then sent up a stem. I planted the seedling in a pot, creating a nice houseplant with glossy green leaves. But since the avocado industry now stores and sells avocados all year, the seeds are usually too old to grow. But I guess last summer I threw a few fresh avocado seeds into the compost because three seeds grew.

But what about that orphan tomato growing with my avocado? I am going to give it every benefit. I have heard about people who have gotten tomatoes to bloom and produce fruit indoors in winter, though I have never done it. To help mine along I have hung a light over it in the window where it is growing. I am using an LED light that uses very little energy and produces a lot of light from its 45 little LED bulbs. It's produced by Sunshine Systems (sunshine-systems.com) and uses just 28 watts of power while providing the light of a 250 watt hps lamp.

I realize that my tomato might not produce tasty fruit even if I get some. It all depends on the seed: it will be fine if it came from an heirloom tomato, but if it's from a hybrid tomato plant, maybe not. Still ... it's winter, and I'm game to try anything to feel like a gardener.

Henry Homeyer is a gardening teacher, coach and public speaker. Reach him at henry.homeyer@comcast.net or P.O. Box 364, Cornish Flat, NH 03746. 🍅

Beginning to itch for a little spring in your life already? I am. Jump start the season with an indoor gardening project.

Begin your collection with a potting table. This can be a table of any size, but try keeping it by a window. To the table, add a few vintage flower pots and perhaps a couple of hand garden tools in bright colors. Incorporate a shelf above the table and throw a few gardening books on it along with a couple of planters and/or flower pots.

Bring in a couple of old galvanized tin buckets and fill one with potting soil. Find an old scoop and maybe even leave some empty pots in the tin bucket. Next, find a chair — any old straight chair will do — and paint it a bright color that pleases you. Add a cushion to the chair seat and pull it up to the gardening table. Add an old watering can to the display.

Add a few favorite flowers to old flower pots. There are lots of flowering plants you can grow inside for the winter. Place some old bottles filled with water and some of your favorite fresh cut flowers on your bench and replace as needed through the cold winter. Even a very tiny space can provide a getaway in which you can take a few minutes and relax, sip hot chocolate and enjoy a good book, and remember that spring is on its way again soon. Maybe then you can move this all outside if you have the space or onto a porch so you can continue to enjoy your gardening space.

When shopping for what you need, remember to purchase local and help out your community by supporting flea mar-



kets, antiques shops and florists for just about anything you may need. Anything that fits into your décor — new, used or antique — will do. This is going to be your space so make it all about you.

Donna Welch has spent more than 20 years in the antiques and collectibles field and owns From Out Of The Woods Antique Center in Goffstown (fromoutofthewoodsantiques.com). She is an antiques appraiser and instructor. To find out about your antique or collectible, send a clear photo of the object and information about it to Donna Welch, From Out Of The Woods Antique Center, 465 Mast Road, Goffstown, N.H., 03045. Or email her at footwdw@aol.com. Or drop by the shop (call first, 624-8668).

Nashua Public Library (2 Court St., Nashua, 589-4610, nashualibrary.org) will host Marina Forbes to talk about Russia on Thurs., Jan. 30, at 7 p.m. This event is free and registration is not required.

required at wacnh.org.

• **WORLD AFFAIRS COUNCIL EVENT** Southern NH University will host Jim Smith, a former U.S. Ambassador to Saudi Arabia on Fri., Jan. 31, from 5 to 7 p.m. at the Hospitality Center (2500 N. River Road, Manchester, 314-7970, wacnh.org). Tickets are \$20 and advance registration is requested.

• **POST-AMERICAN MIDDLE EAST: PAKISTAN'S PLACE** will be held at University of New Hampshire Manchester (400 Commercial St., Manchester) on Thurs., Feb. 20, at 6 p.m. Registration required at wacnh.org.

Nature
Animals/insects
• **BUG NIGHTS** at the St. Paul's School (Boscawen, 796-2615, merrimackriver.org) to

learn about bugs will be held on Jan. 29, Feb. 5, 12, 19, and 26, March 12, 19, and 36 and in April on the 2, 9, 16 and 23. All meetings are held on Wednesdays from 6 to 9 p.m.

• **TRACKING NH ANIMALS** The Nature Cafe at Massabesic (26 Deerneck Road, Auburn, 668-2045, nhandubon.org) will have a presentation and a walk about tracking NH animals on Sat., Jan. 25, from 1 to 2:30 p.m. and on Sat., Feb. 8, from 1 to 2:30 p.m. Cost is \$7 member or \$9 non-member, or families are \$15 member or \$20 non-member.

• **HOOFED IN NEW HAMPSHIRE** The Amoskeag Fishways Learning Center (4 Fletcher St., Manchester, 626-3474, amoskeagfishways.org) will have a family presentation about deer and moose on Jan. 31, from 7 to 8 p.m. Cost is \$5 per family, registration is required.

• **GROUNDHOG DAY CELEBRATION** at the Squam Lakes Natural Science Center (23 Science Center Road, Holderness, 968-7194, nhnature.org) will be held on Sat., Feb. 1, from 10

to 11:30 a.m. Cost is \$9. There will be games, crafts, storytelling, outdoor activities and a visit with a live groundhog.

• **BEE SCHOOL** The South Congregational Church (25 Pleasant St., Concord, 568-2691, 798-5475, capitalareabeekeepers.org) will host their annual bee school starting Feb. 7. Cost is \$55-\$60 plus book. Registration is required.

• **TIPS AND TRICKS TO TRACKING** The Nature Cafe at Massabesic (26 Deerneck Road, Auburn, 668-2045, nhandubon.org) will have a presentation about tracking in winter months on Fri., Feb. 7, from 7 to 8:30 p.m. There will be refreshments. Cost is \$5 per person.

• **WHERE ARE OUR OSPREYS** at the Squam Lakes Natural Science Center (23 Science Center Road, Holderness, 968-7194, nhnature.org) will be held on Sat., Feb. 8, from 1 to 2 p.m. As part of Project Osprey Track, Iain MacLeod will give the latest news on the satellite-tracked ospreys with their migrations. Cost is \$7.

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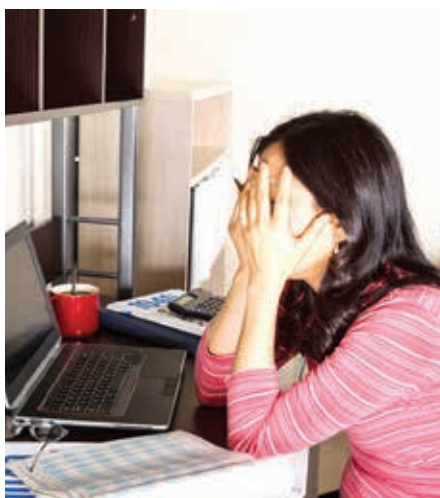
By Joel Bergeron
 listings@hippopress.com



How many stressful encounters do you deal with every day? Flat tire? Moody boss? Uncomfortable bed? Bills stacking up? According to the Public Safety Fitness Association Certification Handbook, the human body was originally built to deal with two to three stressful encounters a week — that's right, a WEEK. Guess how many stressful situations we deal with in modern times? Between 23 and 27, on average, each week. All that stress builds up over time in what we call a "stacking" effect, and if we don't find ways to deal with it, there are myriad health problems that arise.

Prolonged levels of stress can cause higher risk for heart disease, cancer, accelerated aging, hair loss, overall health dysfunction, depression, lowered self-esteem, decreased self-image, less confidence and weight gain. The last issue — weight gain — is often one people notice first because it presents itself visually. Putting on unwanted pounds makes us feel bad about ourselves, and negative self-image is an extremely powerful stressor.

Unfortunately, most people don't know what to do when they feel stress, so they turn to eating. The reason behind this is simple: eating a tasty treat feels good and your brain produces a natural "high" from chemicals telling you it's OK to eat your stress away. This is an evolutionary adaptation meant for survival. If I feel bad, eat. If I gain weight, I survive longer — which would be cool if we were all still living in the wild. The problem today is that food is abundantly available, and it's cheaper and more calorie-dense than ever. This is a big reason why our country is overweight — we are all eating our stressors away. But all this does is mask the first problem and cre-



ate others. Instead of turning to comfort food as a solution to your worries, aim to melt away a few pounds by getting involved with regular physical activity. It's a scientific fact that the best way to deal with stress is by exercising regularly. Exercising as few as three days per week for 20 minutes per workout provides health improvements, increased daily energy and a sense of calmness and accomplishment.

For your diet, aim to eat meals rich in fruits and vegetables, whole grains, fiber and lean proteins. Avoid high-fat items laden with butter, oils, visible lard (i.e. animal fat) and salts.

Eating four to five small meals per day along with three to five days a week of exercise will help you look better and improve mental health by dealing with stress in a positive way.

Do you have a question about health and fitness that you'd like answered in the Healthy Hippo? Email Joel Bergeron at info@nlpstrength.com. Joel is a former NCAA D1 and professional sports coach and holds a master's degree in sport science. Be sure to check with your doctor before changing your eating habits or embarking on a new exercise program.



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Birds
• WINTER IS FOR THE BIRDS The Amoskeag Fishways Learning Center (4 Fletcher St., Manchester, 626-3474, amoskeagfishways.org) will have a preschool presentation about winter birds on Jan. 23, from 9:30 to 11 or 12:30 to 2 p.m. Cost is \$8 per family, registration is required.
• SUPERBOWL OF BIRDING Teams will compete to look for as many bird species as possible in 12 hours on Sat., Jan. 25 in Rye. Twitchers, the team, will raise money for support the New Hampshire Audubon. Con-

tact Becky Suomala rsuomala@nhaudubon.org or call 224-9909 x309. Visit nhbirdrecord.org.
• HOW MANY BIRDS IN YOUR BACKYARD a bird survey will take place on Sat., Feb. 8 and Sun., Feb. 9. Count the birds in your backyard and send in the number to the NH Audubon (84 Silk Farm Road, Concord, nhaudubon.org). To receive a reporting form and instructions mail in a self-addressed, stamped envelope to the NH Audubon. Visit bird-count.org.
• WINTER BIRD BANDING at the Squam Lakes Natural Sci-

ence Center (23 Science Center Road, Holderness, 968-7194, nhnature.org) will be held on Wed., Feb 19, from 10 a.m. to noon. Cost is \$10 and attendees will see how birds are captured and banded.

Hiking, hikes & walks
• WILD WINTER WALKS Squam Lakes Natural Science Center (23 Science Center Road, Holderness, 968-7194, nhnature.org) will have guided tours of a live animal trail through selected weekends in March. Walks will feature snowshoes if weather permits. Register by phone.

Scales and slime

Reptiles slither in for expo

By Kaitlin Joseph
kjoseph@hippopress.com

Lizards, komodo dragons and snakes will take up residence at the Radisson Hotel during the New England Reptile Expo on Sunday, Jan. 26.

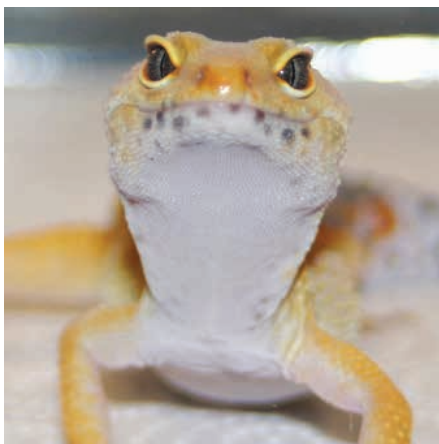
"This will attract two sets of audiences," said Bruce Lowder of Animal Encounters in New York. "People will get to meet breeders, and families can come and look around and check it out."

The expo will feature different species of snakes, lizards, turtles, frogs and tarantulas, among other reptiles. These reptiles are all legal pets in New Hampshire (as opposed to crocodiles, alligators or rattlesnakes, which were not invited).

"They really are neat pets," Lowder said. "It's addictive. Once folks have them, they try and breed them. It's a passion that's shared throughout a wide variety of people."

The largest of its kind this year, the expo will feature more than 160 different vendor tables. People will get a chance to look at or purchase accessories like cages, books, terrarium supplies and reptile food.

Lowder, who grew up in New England



A Leopard Gecko. Courtesy photo.

and now lives in New York, owns Animal Encounters, which creates educational programs. His family has a number of different reptile pets, and his daughter is a leopard geckos breeder.

For those interested in owning a pet of this nature, Lowder said leopard geckos, ball python snakes and bearded dragons are all great starter animals for someone who doesn't know much about reptiles yet. Still, people should have some base knowledge before they decide to buy a reptile for a pet.

"You need to learn about [the species] first and make sure you can provide for it," Lowder said. "These are cold-blooded creatures, so they need to be kept warm. Some need ultraviolet lighting. [The expo] is a great place to learn what the animal needs and to prepare and deal with it."

Whether you're looking to buy a pet or accessories or not, Lowder said, the expo is a good way to spend a Sunday afternoon.

"It isn't just for people to buy stuff. Come out with your family. It's a lot of fun," Lowder said.

There will be two more reptile expos later this year, in April and October. 🐸

New England Reptile Expo

What: 160+ vendors with reptiles and related accessories.

Where: 700 Elm St., Manchester, Radisson Hotel

When: Sunday, Jan. 26, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Cost: Adult tickets are \$9; tickets for children ages 7 to 12 are \$5; children 6 and under get in free

Visit: reptileexpo.com

Contact: 526-0349 or email: bruce@reptileexpo.com

• **JOURNEY TO THE ROOF OF AFRICA** The Nashua Public Library (2 Court St., Nashua, 589-4610, nashualibrary.org) will host Peter Christoph will talk about his hike up Mt. Kilimanjaro on Thurs., Jan 23, at 7 p.m. Free.

• **JANUARY JAUNT** for Jayme's Fund will take place on Sat., Jan. 25, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Registration will be from 9 to 9:30 a.m. and the hike will start at 9:30 a.m. at 22 Farley Road in Hollis. There will be prizes for the top three fundraisers. Visit jaymesfund.org.

• **GUIDED TOUR OF THE LIVE ANIMAL TRAIL** at the Squam Lakes Natural Science Center (23 Science Center

Road, Holderness, 968-7194, nhnature.org) will be held on Sun., Feb. 9, from 1 to 3 p.m. Snowshoes are available at no extra cost. Cost is \$10 and registration is required.

• **WINTER WALK** at the Hinman Pond Preserve (Hooksett) will offer a winter walk on Feb., 22, from 1 to 3:30 p.m. The walk will be an exploration lead by Bear-Paw volunteer, Frank Mitchell. If conditions are suitable, bring snowshoes or skis.

• **FITNESS HIKING** offered by the Beaver Brook Association will run through April. Mondays 9 to 11 a.m. for moderate (2-2.5 miles per hour) and Fridays 9 to 11 a.m. for moderately fast (2.5-3 miles per hour).

Snowshoes and crampons provided in winter. Registration required. Call 465-7787.

• **WINTER TRAIL ADVENTURES** The Concord Parks and Recreation Programs (14 Canterbury Road, Concord, 225-8690, concordparksandrec.com) will have 6 different trails to hike or snowshoe. All ages and fitness levels welcome.

Outdoors

• **MAPLE SYRUPING** at the Milford Agway (351 Elm St., Milford, 641-6060) on Tues., Jan. 28, from 6 to 7 p.m. The class is free and is for beginners looking to learn about maple syruping. Register with an email to jillian.kitchen@unh.edu.

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News from the local food scene

By Emelia Attridge
food@hippopress.com

• Hermit Woods meets its goal:

In December, Hermit Woods Winery announced that it was moving to Main Street in Meredith and began an online Kickstarter Campaign fundraiser to meet its goals in moving and construction of the space. At the end of the campaign, 170 contributors had raised \$28,980. The new tasting room is scheduled to open in the coming weeks. Owners stated in a recent press release that they hope to open by the Feb. 1. Visit hermitwoods.com.

• **Food Network comes to Fresh Market:** Food Network Executive Chef Bob Bleifer will be conducting a free step-by-step cooking demonstration and wine pairing on Thursday, Jan. 30, from noon to 3 p.m. at Fresh Market in Bedford. Bleifer will prepare recipes from the Food Network Kitchen, like macaroni and three cheeses with garlic breadcrumbs.

• **Concord Co-op gets an olive bar makeover:** The Concord Food Co-op (24 S. Main St., Concord, 225-6840, concord-foodcoop.coop) recently revamped its olive bar. Now, the bar features a variety of olives as well as dishes and sides like quinoa salad with roasted vegetables, Mediterranean couscous salad, an olive salad, roasted cauliflower salad, olive tapenade, feta cheese with pepperoncinis and capers and balsamic beets. An introductory video to the new dishes can be viewed online on the Co-op's YouTube page.

• **New subs in Nashua:** Firehouse Subs, a sub-shop restaurant chain, opened in Nashua on Monday, Jan. 20 at 341 Amherst St. The restaurant serves hot subs, cold subs, salads and specialty subs (including Firehouse Meatball, New York Steamer and Club on a Sub). Visit firehousesubs.com.

• **Fire and Ice in the Port City:** The Greater Portsmouth Chamber of Commerce plans on heating up the city this February with ice bars, fire pits, dog sledding and other seasonal festivities. The first annual Portsmouth Fire and Ice Festival will be held Thursday, Feb. 13, through Monday, Feb. 17. It's built on Portsmouth Gas Light Company's Ice Fest, which has been held on weekends in mid-February for the past three years. The new festival includes family activities during the day and entertainment in the evening, plus three ice bars, fire pits, ice luges, wood fire-grilled food and ice sculptures. The Portsmouth Gas Light Company restaurant will hold its Fire and Ice Fest, in addition to

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FOOD

Beer, bison and a friendly polar bear

Polar Grill Fest heats things up in Portsmouth

By Emelia Attridge
food@hippopress.com

New Englanders are known for toughing it in harsh weather conditions, and the same can be said for festival-goers during Polar Grill Fest. The annual festival collaboration with The Meat House and Redhook Brewery returns this year with fingers crossed for a warm front — or at least not a blizzard.

"When you're from northern New England, you seem to get it," said Cary Tober, executive director of marketing at The Meat House. "I think our biggest fear is that we'll have a snowstorm — although we'll still be grilling."

Polar Grill Fest celebrates its third year on Saturday, Jan. 25, at Redhook Brewery in Portsmouth.

During its first year, Tober said, 25,000 guests showed up in unusually warm January weather, and last year over 35,000 braved a very cold afternoon. It's almost like a tailgating party, but bigger, with live music, beer and a lot of grilling.

"I don't want to call it a chilly tailgate cook-off. It's more like a festival atmosphere. I'd bring it to more of a food festival or a barbecue festival atmosphere," Tober said. "Mostly it's just a really good time for something to do on a Saturday when it's cold out."

No matter the weather, guests have plenty of opportunity to warm up over outdoor fire pits with hot food. The menu this year features bison sausage subs, smoked turkey legs, steak tips, burgers, pulled pork and grilled pizza. Participating restaurants include The Bison Council (which joined



Polar Grill Fest attendees warm up with outdoor grilling, Redhook beer and entertainment for the third year in a row this year. Courtesy photo.

as a partner sponsor for this year's festival, Tober said), Gas Light, MoJo's BBQ Grill & Tavern, Flatbread, The Meat House and Popovers on the Square.

This year, the festival benefits 3S Artspace, a non-profit regional gathering space for artists in Portsmouth.

"We've been working with them in the community for a while now," Tober said. "Our mission meets 3S really well."

Although food is the anchor at Polar Grill Fest, Tober said the entertainment is definitely a growing component. There's live music and Green Foundry will be creating public art by pouring molten metal onto an ice sculpture at the end of the show.

"By the end of last year's event we had a dance party going on," Tober said. "The

Polar Grill Fest

When: Saturday, Jan. 25, from noon to 5 p.m.

Where: Redhook Brewery, 1 Redhook Way, Portsmouth

Cost: \$5 for admission, \$5 for a plate, \$5 for beer

Visit: polargrillfest.com

cool part of this event is it's all the groups coming together to do something good for the community, showcase the food and having fun."

There's also a silent auction, and Tober said the afternoon isn't complete without a photo with the polar bear.

"Dress warm," he said. "It's no joke. Wear your ski gear." ❄️

Chili or chowder, you pick

Cook off returns for third year in Amherst

By Emelia Attridge
food@hippopress.com

Warm up this weekend at the third annual Chili and Chowder Cook Off in Amherst, where amateur and professional chefs will prepare and serve a chili or chowder of their choice.

"We just get bigger and better [each year]," organizer Wendy Hunt said.

About 15 to 20 amateur contenders will participate this year, along with local restaurants. Among the contenders are winners from the past two competitions.

"It's going to become a fun little rivalry for some of the area restaurants," Hunt said.

Judges look for originality and overall taste in both chili and chowder recipes. For the chili in particular, judges look for flavor, creativity and appearance.

"The seafood chowders were just so full of shrimp and scallops," she said. "The corn chowder that won was actually area corn which had been bought in-season and frozen, then cooked on a wood stove."

Some of the more unique flavors in previous years included buffalo chicken chili, Hunt said.

Presentation is taken into account too. Last year, Hunt said, the Heiter family of young amateur cooks prepared a slideshow presentation with the kid chefs making their recipe for the competition.

Chili and Chowder Cook Off

When: Sunday, Jan. 26, from noon to 3 p.m.

Where: Amherst Business Center (105 Route 101A, Amherst)

Cost: \$10 adults, \$8 seniors, \$5 under 12 years old

Visit: souhegan.net

"People take it very seriously. They have great pride in what they submit," Hunt said. "People put their own twist on it. It's not just your momma's ground beef."

There are six to eight judges, and with so much to taste, half are assigned to chili and the other half tackle the chowder, Hunt said. This year, there will be separate People's Choice awards for chowder and chili.

The cook-off runs throughout the day, so guests can stop by and sample com-

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FOOD

Cheers to brewers

BrewNH promoting state's craft beer culture

By Emelia Attridge
 food@hippypress.com

The idea for a state initiative to promote the culture, tourism and economy of craft beer in New Hampshire started — where else? — at a bar.

As Beer Distributors of New Hampshire Executive Director Scott Schailer and Smuttynose Brewing Minister of Propaganda J.T. Thompson chatted about the state's beer industry last summer, they stumbled on a new idea. The result is BrewNH, the state's first cooperative that advocates for locally brewed beer.

Brewers, distributors and politicians met Jan. 7, at Smuttynose Brewing Company's new Hampton facility to launch BrewNH.

"It's going really well, as you can expect," Schailer said at the launch. "It's really a labor of love for everyone that's involved."

The non-profit promotes awareness, education and communication between consumers, breweries and beer distributors in the state.

The launch event included politicians, like Gov. Maggie Hassan and state legislators, beer distributors, brewers and advocates for the state's craft brewing industry. Representatives and brewers from Henniker Brewing Company, 603 Brewery, Throwback Brewery, Redhook, Smuttynose, Earth Eagle Brewings, White Birch Brewing and Woodstock Inn Brewery were just a few in attendance during the event.

Peter Telge, owner and brewmaster at Milly's Tavern in Manchester, was also in attendance at the launch. Although he agreed things are changing, he'd like to see more New Hampshire craft beers on tap at local bars.

"I'm really excited about what's going on in New Hampshire," Telge said. "I think this is all coming together, and this [BrewNH] happening — it's going to happen."

Part of that public exposure to the state's beers comes with the bilateral communication between the distributors and breweries, Schailer said.

"I think it's awesome," said Ryan Maiola, marketing director at Henniker



Brewers, distributors and legislators celebrate BrewNH over locally brewed craft beer. Emelia Attridge photo.

Brewing Company. "It's nice to see that support and see everyone coming together."

Maiola has witnessed the increased interest in New Hampshire beers firsthand. Henniker Brewing Company just celebrated its first year anniversary, and although its tap room doesn't open until noon on Saturdays, Maiola said regulars will wait in the parking lot as early as 11:30 a.m. just to fill up their growlers.

Although the demand and interest is growing in New Hampshire's craft beers, brewers say that there's still competition between other beer industry leaders in New England.

Now, when tourists (as well as Granite Staters) want to explore New Hampshire's beer scene, they can go online to nhbeer.org for up-to-date social media information, like a Twitter feed on New Hampshire beer news and itineraries for visiting local breweries.

"We're a tourism state," Schailer said, noting that BrewNH works in partnership with New Hampshire's Travel & Tourism division because beer has an economic impact to the state's hospitality and tourism sectors.

Schailer said he's most excited about the website (nhbeer.org), with components like the event calendar, the interactive map of breweries and the "Ask a Beer Sherpa" features.

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BrewNH

Check out the interactive map or read up-to-date New Hampshire beer news on the Twitter feed at nhbeer.org. Love New Hampshire beer? Use #nhbeer in your social media.

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Brenda Sinclair is the executive chef at Sizzle Bistro (1 Highlander Way, Manchester, 232-3344, sizzlebistro.com), located at The Executive Health & Sports Center. Sinclair is a Manchester native and has worked in other Queen City restaurants including the Red Arrow, Ignite and Rouge Grille. She enjoys being able to work with the variety of her menu since the restaurant is located outside the downtown area of Elm Street. "Out here I have a little more freedom with specials and seafood."

What is your must-have kitchen item?

For me, everything that I make probably has wine in it. A complete necessity in the kitchen is good wine.

What would you choose for your last meal?

I'm a big steak eater. I'd have to say a perfectly cooked filet. That would probably be my meal of choice.

Favorite restaurant besides your own?

Still, my favorite restaurant is Common Man; great food, good price, great drinks.

What celebrity would you like to see eating at your restaurant?

I've actually met a few — not at Sizzle though. I worked at the Red Arrow, so I met a lot there. ... Leonardo Dicaprio ...

that would be pretty cool, actually. Then he could make a movie about it.

What is the biggest food trend in New Hampshire right now?

There's been so many big food trends. Last time I was looking into it, it was all about the beets and kale chips. It was huge. ... People are definitely watching what they're eating now.

What is your favorite meal to cook at home?

I love cooking lasagna when I'm at home.

What is your favorite dish on your restaurant's menu?

My favorite dish here would have to be the haddock piccata. It's an excellent meal.
— Emelia Attridge

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Fruit Salsa

2 cups diced pineapple
1/2 pint cherry tomatoes
1 cup diced mango
1 cup diced papaya
1/4 cup chopped cilantro
1 1/2 teaspoon chopped garlic
1 tablespoon granulated sugar
1/2 cup diced red onion

1 lime, juiced
1/4 cup white rum

Marinade

1 cup Mae Ploy sweet chili sauce
1 tablespoon soy sauce

Mix marinade ingredients in a bowl, mix well. Pour marinade on salmon and bake at 350 degrees farenheit for 25 minutes or until salmon is cooked to desired temperature. Add all fruit salsa ingredients to mixing bowl and mix well. Top salmon with fruit salsa and serve.

Food Lectures/author events/festivals/fairs

• **COOK AND SHARE BOOK GROUP** Thurs., Jan. 23, at 6:30 p.m. at Chester Public Library (3 Chester St., Chester, 887-3404, chesterlibrary.com) to share and sample recipes from a selected cookbook. Registration required.

• **STARTUP NIGHT** at Leaven Beer and Bread House (44 Market St., Somersworth, 692-0157, leavennh.com) on Thurs., Jan. 23, Thurs., Feb. 20, Thurs., March 20, and Thurs., April 17. Audience members participate in entrepreneurial game show to pitch ideas and collaborate.

• **WHAT'S COOKIN' BOOK CLUB** Sat., Jan. 25, from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Goffstown Public Library (2 High St., Goffstown, 497-2102, goffstownlibrary.com) to sample recipes from *Barefoot Contessa Foolproof* by Ina Garten. Advanced registration required.

• **POLAR GRILL FEST** Sat., Jan. 25, from noon to 5 p.m. at Redhook Brewery (1 Redhook Way, Portsmouth, 501-3940, polargrillfest.com).

• **CHILI CHOWDER COOKOFF** Sun., Jan. 26, from noon to 3 p.m. at the Amherst Business Center (105 Route 101, Amherst). Visit the Souhegan Valley Chamber of Commerce

website at souhegan.net.

• **PAIRING TEA AND CHOCOLATE** Hosted by Hollis Social Library (2 Monument Square, Hollis, 465-7721, hollislibrary.org) on Thurs., Jan. 30, at 7 p.m. at the Lawrence Barn. The Cozy Tea Cart will provide a lecture on pairing tea and chocolate. Registration closes Mon., Jan. 27.

• **FIRE AND ICE FEST** Sat., Feb. 15, and Sun., Feb. 16, at 6 p.m. at Portsmouth Gas Light Company (64 Market St., Portsmouth) with ice bars, fire pits, ice luges, wood fire grilled food and ice sculptures. Beverages from Southern Wine and Spirits and New Hampshire Distributors. portsmouthchamber.org.

Weekly Dish

Continued from page 58

Winter Night at Pitt Tavern at Strawberry Banke Museum, on Saturday, Feb. 15, with tavern food and brews and a hearth-cooking workshop on Friday, Feb. 14, at Strawberry Banke Museum. See portsmouthchamber.org.

• **Leavening creativity:** Leaven Beer and Bread House (44 Market St., Somersworth, 692-0157, leavnnh.com) and Seacoast Local are teaming up on Thursday, Jan. 23, to present Startup Night, a monthly “gameshow” where the audiences forms teams to pitch ideas and collaborate. The program will be held one Thursday every month at the restaurant (Jan. 23, Feb. 20, March 20, April

17). Both groups hope to inspire an entrepreneurial spirit on the seacoast, of which Leaven is a product itself.

• **Get ready for Wine Week:** The festivities begin Monday, Jan. 27, and run through Sunday, Feb. 2. Make reservations now for seminars and wine dinners by visiting nhwineweek.com to see an up-to-date calendar of events, ticket prices and locations. Visit nh.easterseals.com/events to purchase tickets to the Winter Wine Spectacular on Thursday, Jan. 30, and check out the many bottle signings and tastings at various NH Liguor and Wine Outlet stores throughout the week. 🍷

• 58 petitors’ dishes, though some guests do stay through the entire event, Hunt said. There’s live entertainment and a beer garden sponsored by Bellavance Beverage Company. Each guest receives a giveaway bag with brochures and coupons for local businesses and restaurants.

“Some of them, this will be their third

year competing. They really make it fun,” Hunt said. “Even if they don’t win, they have a great time, and it’s great exposure for the restaurants.”

The Chili and Chowder Cook Off is presented by the Souhegan Valley Chamber of Commerce and Opportunity Networks in support of both organizations. 🍲



Chris Tynan won best amateur chili during the 2013 Chili & Chowder Cook Off. Courtesy photo.

Chef events/special meals

• **YEAR OF THE HORSE** Fri., Jan. 31, from 4 to 8 p.m. at White Heron Tea (601 Islington St., Portsmouth, 501-6266, whiteherontea.com). Free event celebrates Chinese New Year with artwork, traditional bazaar.

• **STORM SURGE** Cocktail reception, dinner and seminar on the subject of climate change, storms and how they affect the seacoast on Thurs., Feb. 6, at 6 p.m. at the Seacoast Science Center (570 Ocean Boulevard, Rye, 436-8043, seacoastscience-center.org). Tickets cost \$60, and reservations must be made by Sat., Feb. 1. Call Ashley at 436-8043, ext. 14.

• **PRESIDENTIAL FEAST** Hearthside dinner at the Remick Museum and Farm (58 Cleveland Hill Road, Tamworth, 323-

8382, remickmuseum.org) on Sat., Feb. 8, from 5 to 7 p.m. Menu includes roasted ham with molasses sauce, trout fritters, corn pudding, fresh churned butter on corn, minted fruit cordial and Woodbury cake with spiced whipped cream. Cost \$40. Call 323-7591 to make a reservation. Reservations required.


• **WINTER NIGHT AT PITT TAVERN** Sat., Feb. 15, from 7 to 10 p.m. at Strawberry Banke Museum (14 Hancock St., Portsmouth, 433-1100, strawberrybanke.org) celebrates President’s Day weekend like George Washington in 1789 with live acoustic music, beer from Portsmouth Brewing Company and tavern food from The White Apron Cafe at Strawberry Banke. Tickets cost \$22.50.

Valentine’s Day dinners

• **ROMANCING THE TAVERN** Wine and chocolate pairings at the Folsom Tavern (164 Water St., Exeter, 772-2622, independencemuseum.org) on Thurs., Feb. 13, from 6:30 to 9 p.m., led by Kathleen Campbell from Cornucopia Wine & Cheese Market. Also includes colonial Valentine’s Day customs and era love letters. Cost \$18 for non-members.

• **STAGES AT ONE WASHINGTON** (1 Washington St., Suite 325, Dover, 842-4077, stages-dining.com) Dinner on Fri., Feb. 14, and Sat., Feb. 15. Reservations required; visit OpenTable.com.

• **ZORVINO VINEYARDS** (226 Main St., Sandown, 887-8463, zorvino.com) on Fri., Feb. 14. Five-course menu with spar-



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FOOD

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Pork shoulder

We're in the dead of winter here and dealing with an increasingly manic Mother Nature. It's freezing one week, it's balmy the next — how on earth are we supposed to keep up? With all this inconsistency, it becomes increasingly important to eat good and fresh foods to keep us healthy and feeling great.

It can be so difficult to cook every night even though it tends to be healthier and cheaper. We get so tired during the week and it's so much easier to order out or heat up a frozen pizza! But, thanks to a slow cooker and a nice piece of pork, I promise that, at least for this week, cooking can be a piece of cake.

Pork shoulder, sometimes called pork butt, is ideal for slow cooking. This inexpensive cut of meat is the upper part of a pig's shoulder and is usually boneless, but



not always. For this week's recipe, I purchased a little over a pound and a half and it cost me less than \$4 — I couldn't believe it. Plus, we'll have leftovers for days, so this really is the meal that keeps on giving.

When I think of pork shoulder, I think of pulled pork and barbecue. While I absolutely adore barbecue, I went for a different kind of comfort food: Italian. This pork was the star of my ragù this week, and it was delicious! I even brought some over to a friend's house, and her kids gobbled it down. Enjoy this great cut of meat that is so easy to prepare and cheap to buy — sounds like the perfect way to get through this long winter. — Allison Willson Dudas

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08284

Slow Cooker Fettuccine with Pork Ragù

From Real Simple

- 1.5 pounds pork shoulder (may have a small shoulder blade in it)
- 1 carrot, peeled and chopped
- 1 medium sweet onion, chopped
- 1 14.5-ounce can diced tomatoes (I used Muir Glen flavored with basil and garlic)
- 2 tablespoons tomato paste
- 1 tablespoon dried ground thyme
- 1 tablespoon dried oregano
- 2 tablespoons minced garlic
- Salt and pepper
- ¾ pound fettuccine
- Parmesan cheese, for serving

Place all ingredients but pork into your slow cooker. Mix together and then place the pork in, coating it in the mixture.

I placed my slow cooker on high and cooked the pork for 6 hours, but you may prefer low for 8 hours, depending on your schedule.

About 20 minutes or so before serving, boil the pasta and take a fork to "pull" the pork. My pork was so tender, this took little to no effort.

Serve pasta with a healthy portion of your ragù over the top, sprinkling with Parmesan. Enjoy, and be sure to save the leftovers!

kling wine. Cocktail hour starts at 6:30 p.m. Tickets cost \$65.

- **BEDFORD VILLAGE INN** (2 Olde Bedford Way, Bedford, 472-2001, bedfordvillageinn.com) on Fri., Feb. 14, from 5 to 9 p.m., with bottle of Champagne or wine, floral arrangements, greeting card enhancements. Reservations required.
- **DANCING LION CHOCOLATE** (917 Elm St., Manchester, 625-4043, dancinglion.us) Sat., Feb. 15, from 7 to 10 p.m. Cost \$125 per person. Call to be added to waitlist.

Church/charity suppers

- **COMMUNITY BREAKFAST** Sundays from 8 to 11 a.m. at Philbrick-Clement Post 65 American Legion (12 N. Stark

Highway, Weare, 529-2722, nhpost65.us). A la carte breakfast menu benefits the Legion and community outreach. Cost ranges from \$3.50 to \$7.

- **COMMUNITY SUPPER** Held the third Wednesdays of each month from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m., at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation in Milford at 20 Elm St. See uucm.org.

- **POTTER'S BOWL** Fri., Jan. 31, from 5 to 7 p.m. at Promises to Keep (Route 28, Derry). Fundraiser for Community Caregivers with handmade bowls and soups from local restaurants. Tickets cost \$35. Call 432-0877 or visit comcaregivers.org.

- **PELHAM LIBRARY GALA** Fri., Feb. 7, at 7 p.m. at Pelham Public Library (24 Village

Green, Pelham). The theme is Around the World in Eighty Days and includes global dishes from local restaurants. Tickets cost \$15, and can be purchased at the library. Call 635-7581 or visit pelhampubliclibrary.org.

- **FIRE AND ICE FEST CHARITY NIGHT** Fri., Feb. 14, at 6 p.m. at Portsmouth Gas Light Company (64 Market St., Portsmouth). Proceeds benefit Pro Portsmouth, Strawberry Banke and Seacoast Repertory Theater. Includes ice bars, fire pits, ice luges, wood fire grilled food and ice sculptures. Beverages from Southern Wine and Spirits and New Hampshire Distributors. See portsmouthchamber.org.

- **LADIES' TEA** Sat., Feb. 15,

Tater tots

In high school, I loved cafeteria tater tots. They were crispy and somehow greasy at the same time — the perfect non-nutritious lunchtime snack for every high school athlete. Since then, I've had a hard time finding tater tots that I even remotely like. From frozen options at the grocery store to restaurant breakfasts, no tater tots compare to my one true love in high school.

In Napoleon Dynamite fashion, I fought to keep my love of tots to a minimum, but even now I can't resist trying to find the ideal combination of crisp, crunch, salt and a bit of grease. For the most part, my search has been lackluster — until I saw a recipe for homemade tater tots from Yahoo. The recipe contains three of my favorite food groups: potatoes, cheese and garlic — the recipe high school dreams are made of.

I decided to try the recipe as a side for dinner one night, figuring the garlic and Parmesan cheese were better suited to a more savory meal than on-the-go breakfast. After making the tater tots, however, I would argue you could serve them at any meal.

Tater tots, although not intimidating in nature, have always seemed like a better idea to buy or order. I honestly never thought about making the little potato nug-



gets from scratch. But when I saw this recipe, and that it only called for four ingredients, all of which I had in the pantry, I knew I had to try it.

Prep time for this recipe isn't much; it's mostly a waiting game to reach the finished product. I'd suggest only starting this recipe when your dinner is at least two hours out. Or prep the tater tots the night before and bake the next day to cut down on wait time.

I added a pinch of garlic salt and a sprinkle of Parmesan cheese once the tater tots came out of the oven, and it was just enough additional flavor to put the dish over the top. The potato itself has a subtle flavor profile, as the roasted garlic and Parmesan cheese baked into the bite don't overwhelm the natural potato flavor.

While the tater tots were far from uniform in size, the flavor was exceptional. I was really pleased with how the dish turned out and paired it with steak for dinner. The tater tots were a nice escape from a boring baked potato, adding a little fun to the dinner table. — *Lauren Mifsud*

Garlic-Parmesan Tater Tots

Recipe Courtesy CamillaMMann on Yahoo

- 3 large red potatoes (about 1½ pounds total)
- 2 cloves roasted garlic
- ½ cup shredded Parmesan cheese
- 1 dash freshly ground sea salt
- Olive oil for greasing pan

Preheat the oven to 400 degrees. Scrub the potatoes clean and roast in the oven until they are fork tender. Remove from the oven and cool rapidly by plunging them into ice water. Change the water and repeat until

the potatoes are cool. Shred potatoes with a box grater (the larger holes work best). You can opt to peel the potatoes first, but it's not necessary). Use a fork to mix the potatoes, garlic and cheese. Preheat the oven to 425 degrees. Next, line a baking sheet with parchment paper and rub it with a layer of olive oil. Using about a teaspoon of the potato mixture, form it into a cylinder about 1 inch long. Place on the parchment paper and repeat until all tots are formed. Bake about 35 to 40 minutes, turning about halfway through the cooking time, until golden brown.

at 2 p.m. at St. Paul's United Methodist Church (335 Smyth Road, Manchester) for a Valentine's mother, daughter, granddaughter and friends celebration and presentation of *Downtown Abbey* with tea. Admission costs \$5, and children under 12 receive free admission. Call Sandy Baines at 623-6053 or Joan Wood at 668-5613 before Fri., Feb. 7.

• **EMPTY BOWLS** Wed., Feb. 19, from 6 to 8 p.m. at Nashua High School South (36 River-

side St., Nashua) benefits Nashua Soup Kitchen and Shelter with over 700 stoneware bowls handmade by students, faculty and community members with soups to choose from. Cost \$15. See nsks.org.

• **INDOOR FARMERS MARKET** The Merrimack YMCA (6 Henry Clay Dr., Merrimack, 598-1553, nmhmc.org) will host an indoor farmers market on Sat., Jan. 25, from 8 a.m. to noon. There will be local artists, farmers, crafters, producers, res-

taurants and more.

• **TABLE TALK** Networking event with dinner and dancing benefits the Palace Youth Theatre, Palace Teen Company and Palace Teen Apprentice Company on Fri., March 14, at Southern New Hampshire University (2500 N. River Road, Manchester). Open to the public for the first year ever. Tickets cost \$650 per corporate table, public seating costs \$60 per person. Call 668-5588 or visit palacetheatre.org.

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FOOD

JUST DESSERTS
Recipes for the sweet tooth

Sesame seeds

Your eyes are not playing tricks on you. The cake in the picture really is that color. It is not supposed to be a buttery yellow or a nutty brown; that sort of deep-yet-silvery blue-gray is the intended, if unusual, hue. The key? Black sesame seeds.

Sesame seeds are most familiar in their white version as a negligible topping on hamburger buns and bagels. They also show up in savory meals, in sweet glazed sesame chicken, for example, or crusting a piece of seared tuna. And every once in a while, especially in Asian cuisine, sesame seeds show up in dessert.

My first encounter with a sesame dessert was during a dim sum lunch on a trip to Hong Kong. When dessert came, the cousin I was visiting grabbed a dish of what appeared to be black-and-white striped blocks of opaque Jell-O. It was, I was told, a sesame flavored confection and, wanting to be open-minded, I gave it a try. I couldn't



even tell you how it tasted; the texture was so off-putting I rather rudely spit it out before my tongue had any chance to register the flavor.

Thankfully, there are any number of sesame desserts with more conventional textures. My favorite dessert cookbook, *Flour*, includes a recipe for sesame lace cookies flavored with honey and orange. Epicurious.com offers up several recipes for incorporating sesame seeds into brittles in place of nuts.

I chose this unusual tea bread, which uses finely ground black sesame seeds to thoroughly infuse the rich, nutty flavor of sesame into the batter. A hearty sprinkling of sugar over the uncooked bread gives the final product a sweet, crisp crust that is an excellent complement to the dense, moist interior. Enjoy. — Sarah Shemkus

Black Sesame Tea Bread

Recipe adapted slightly from Bon Appétit, via epicurious.com

½ cup unsalted butter, room temperature, plus more for greasing pan
1½ cups flour
1 cup almond flour or almond meal
2 teaspoon baking powder
½ teaspoon baking soda
½ teaspoon kosher salt
2 tablespoons plus ½ cup black sesame seeds
1½ cups plus 1 tablespoon sugar
1 large egg
1 large egg yolk
¾ cup buttermilk

Preheat oven to 325 degrees. Butter a 9x5x3-inch loaf pan and set aside.

Whisk together 1½ cups flour, almond flour, baking powder, baking soda, salt and 2 tablespoons sesame seeds. In a spice mill or coffee grinder, grind remaining sesame seeds to form a thick paste, about 2 minutes.

Using an electric or stand mixer, beat ½ cup butter and 1½ cups sugar until well combined. Add sesame paste and beat, until blended, then add egg and egg yolk. Beat until pale and fluffy, 3 to 4 minutes. On low speed or stir setting, beat in flour mixture in 3 additions, alternating with buttermilk in 2 additions, beginning and ending with dry ingredients. Spoon batter into prepared pan; smooth top. Sprinkle with remaining sugar. Bake until a tester comes out clean when inserted into center, about 1 hour 20 minutes. Let cool in pan on a wire rack.

Food classes/workshops

• **DATE NIGHT COOKING CLASSES** at The Culinary Playground (16 Manning St., Derry, 339-1664, forkidswhocook.com) cost \$150 per couple on select Fridays from 6 to 9 p.m. Upcoming classes include Chinese New Year (Fri., Jan. 24) and Romantic Recipes (Fri., Feb. 14).
• **CHINESE NEW YEAR COOKING** Sun., Jan. 26, from 3 to 5:30 p.m. at The Culinary Playground (16 Manning St., Derry, 339-1664, forkidswhocook.com). Kids ages 11 and up can make

spring rolls with dipping sauce, teriyaki chicken lo mein and fortune cookies. Costs \$50.
• **HANDS ON PIZZA** Tuscan cooking class on Wed., Jan. 29, from 6 to 9 p.m. at Tuscan Market (67 Main St., Salem, 912-5467, tuscanbrands.com). Sign-up at tuscanbrands.eventbrite.com. All classes cost \$125 (\$50 gift for participants who register for all three classes).
• **COOKING INDIAN CUISINE** Bedford Community Enrichment cooking class meets on Wednesday evenings from 6 to

9 p.m. at Bedford High School (47 Nashua Road, Bedford) on Wed., Jan. 29, Wed., Feb. 12, and Wed., March 12. Tuition costs \$39 per class, plus an additional \$10 supply fee per class. Visit sau25.net.
• **SUPER BOWL SNACKS WITH DAD** Sun., Feb. 2, from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at The Culinary Playground (16 Manning St., Derry, 339-1664, forkidswhocook.com). Fathers and children make buffalo chicken dip, mini manicotti and spicy cashews. \$55 for a father and child (ages 7 and up) team.

Wine anticipation

Planning for a week dedicated to wine

By Stefanie Phillips
food@hippopress.com

Next week marks one of the best weeks for wine lovers. It's the ninth annual **New Hampshire Wine Week**, a time filled with fun events, seminars, food and of course, plenty of wine, presented by the New Hampshire Liquor Commission.

According to Nicole Brassard Jordan, wine marketing and sales specialist for the New Hampshire Liquor Commission, "Wine Week helps the consumer experience wine in a different way. It's not just going home and tasting a bottle of wine with your significant other. It is actually going and experiencing and meeting the people behind the wines, hearing the passion they deliver."

While we have some great winemakers here in New Hampshire, Wine Week gives us the opportunity to meet winemakers from all over the country, including the Mondavis (Janice, Michael, Rob Jr. and Marc), Suzanne Groth of Groth Vineyards, Andrea Cecchi of Cecchi Wines, Michael Eddy of Ghost Pines and many others. More than 50 wine experts will be part of Wine Week, and among them are New Hampshire's own Bob Dabrowski of Candia Vineyards, Peter Oldak of Jewell Towne Vineyards, Michael Fairbrother of Moonlight Meadery and Amy LaBelle and Cesar Arboleda of LaBelle Winery.

A slew of events, including **tastings and wine dinners**, start Monday, Jan. 27, and are happening all over the state. Have a bottle of wine personally signed by the winemaker or enjoy a four-course meal. While tastings are often complimentary, dinners range in price from \$60 to \$95.

Wine Week also includes **Cellar Notes Seminars**, with educational tastings and receptions with wine experts. Two events are available online — one in Manchester and one in Portsmouth. At each event, wine experts will share their stories and expertise with a small audience. Reserve your space now if you are interested in one of these seminars. At \$35, they are affordable and informative.

The culmination of Wine Week is the **Easter Seals 11th annual Winter Wine Spectacular** on Thursday, Jan. 30, held at the Radisson in downtown Manchester. This event is a wine lover's dream, with more than 1,800 wines available for tasting and food samples from area restaurants. This event sells out very quickly, so advance tickets are

strongly recommended.

General admission tickets are \$65 for the grand tasting from 6 to 9 p.m., or you can spring for a VIP tasting room ticket for \$125, which gets you admission into both the grand tasting and the **Bellman's Cellar Select tasting area** from 6 to 8 p.m.

If you plan on attending this event, I have a few recommendations for you:

- Eat a hearty dinner before you go. There will be food samples, but they typically go quickly due to the large crowd and you definitely want to have some food in your stomach before you start tasting.

- If possible, allow yourself to get there and peruse the program before you start going from table to table. I like to go in with a plan and try wines I have never had before if I can.

- Stick with mainly reds or whites, especially if you have a sensitive stomach.

- Don't drink everything that goes into your glass. Trust me — your night will not end well if you do. It's OK to pour or spit the wine out. Your stomach will thank you.

- Drink water. It's not just for rinsing your glass. Stay hydrated.

- Pace yourself. This event is big and exciting, but you want to get the most enjoyment out of it that you can without getting drunk or sick. It's tempting to just drink as much as you can, but this can backfire quickly. Take your time selecting wines, meeting people and enjoying yourself.

For more information on Wine Week, visit nhwineweek.com.

Following Wine Week, Concord Hospital hosts its ninth annual **Heart of the Grape** event on Friday, Feb. 7, from 6 to 9 p.m. at the Grappone Conference Center in Concord. This event benefits the hospital's Breast Care Center and Genetic Counseling Program. General admission tickets (good for tasting from 7 to 9 p.m.) are affordable at \$30 online, or VIP tickets are available for \$75, which gets you in at 6 p.m. Also, new this year, Grape Expectations will take place from 6 to 7 p.m. and feature a Riedel representative demonstrating the relationship between the shape of the glass and the enjoyment of wine. Admission is \$100 and includes four Riedel tasting glasses and admission to the tasting from 7 to 9 p.m.

More information and tickets are available by clicking on the Heart of the Grape banner at giveto.concordhospital.org. 🍷

Drink Beer/wine/liquor tastings

• **OSKAR BLUES** tasting on Thurs., Jan. 23, from 5 to 7 p.m. at The Beer Store, 433 Amherst St., Nashua, 889-2242, thebeerstorenh.com.

• **ALLAGASH** tasting on Thurs., Jan. 23, from 5 to 7 p.m. at Barb's Beer Emporium, 249 Sheep Davis Road, Concord, 369-4501, barbsbeeremporium.com.
• **NARRAGANSETT** tast-
ing on Thurs., Jan. 30, from

5 to 7 p.m. at The Beer Store, 433 Amherst St., Nashua, 889-2242, thebeerstorenh.com.
• **BROOKLYN** tasting on Thurs., Feb. 6, from 5 to 7 p.m. at The Beer Store, 433 Amherst St., Nashua, 889-



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DRINK

RED, WHITE & GREEN

Bottles for the budget-conscious wine-lover

More snowy days call for more warm red blends.

This week, we tried two wines that blend varietals to result in easy-drinking food-friendly bottles.

2011 Austerit Proprietary Red Wine from California (\$15 at Hannaford) is, according to the Cecchetti Wine Company website, a blend of syrah, cabernet franc, cabernet sauvignon and merlot. We found this dark garnet-colored wine to give off aromas of dried cherry and white pepper, both of which followed through in the flavors. This wine had some heat, some berry (blackberry in particular) and fruity flavors, and a bit of gaminess. It was big and rustic — which made it something of a perfect match for our dinner of raviolis and hearty red sauce.

The **2010 Newton Claret** from Napa County (\$18 from Hannaford) also featured cabernet sauvignon and merlot (33 percent and 66 percent, respectively) with additional touch (1 percent) of petit verdot. Some background: Claret — a word we've seen in older wine and cooking books but not as often in recent wine discussion — generally means Bordeaux-style reds.



According to Wikipedia, "claret" is a protected term used only for Bordeaux reds within the European Union but used more generically for red blends in the U.S. This claret had aromas of leather, dried cherry and vanilla. The cherry followed through in the flavors of this big wine, which had an interesting balance of tannins. "Restrained" is how one of us described it — a bit of the sharpness that tannins can add without the harshness. As with the Austerit, the Newton wine was a solid food wine and paired well with a couple of different meals.

Each week in "Red, White & Green," the wine-lovers taste red and white wines that sell for not too much of the green, less than \$20. The goal? To find a good bottle without breaking the bank. Unless otherwise noted, the prices listed are what you'll find the bottles selling for at the New Hampshire Wine & Liquor Outlet. 🍷

2242, thebeerstorenh.com.

- **SHIPYARD** tasting on Thurs., Feb. 20, from 5 to 7 p.m. at The Beer Store, 433 Amherst St., Nashua, 889-2242, thebeerstorenh.com.

Beer/wine dinners

- **GAME DINNER** with White Birch Brewing on Wed., Jan. 22, at 6:30 p.m. at Cask & Vine (1½ E. Broadway, Derry, 965-3454, caskandvine.com). Reservations required.
- **FRENCH CONNECTION** Sun., Jan. 26, at 4:30 p.m. at Colby Hill Inn (33 The Oaks, Henniker, 428-3281, colbyhillinn.com). Includes five-course dinner and pairings with regional wines from France. Abby Anderson of Perfecta Wine will provide commentary. Reservations required.
- **STEELE WINES** with Bill Bishop on Tue., Jan. 28, at Epoch Restaurant and Bar at The Exeter Inn (2 Pine St., Exeter, 778-3762, epochrestaurant.com). Includes a four-course wine dinner, bottle signing and cocktail hour from 5:30 to 8 p.m. Tickets cost \$60, reservations required. nhwine-week.com.
- **PERRIER JOUET WINE DINNER** Wed., Jan. 29, at 6:30 p.m. at Bedford Village Inn (2 Olde Bedford Way, Bedford, 472-2001, bedfordvillageinn.com). Cost \$95 per person (plus tax and gratuity), reservations required.

com). Cost \$95 per person (plus tax and gratuity), reservations required.

- **J LOHR WINE DINNER** Wed., Feb. 26, at The Old Salt at Lamie's Inn (490 Lafayette Road, Hampton, 926-8322, oldsaltnh.com). Reception at 6 p.m., four-course dinner with wine pairings starts at 6:30 p.m. \$60, reservations required.
- **CATCH WINE DINNER** Thurs., Feb. 27, at Granite Restaurant and Bar at The Centennial Hotel (96 Pleasant St., Concord, 227-9000, graniterestaurant.com). Five-course dinner with wine pairings to benefit CATCH Neighborhood housing. Tickets cost \$65, reservations required.

Beer/wine festivals and special events

- **PINT NITE** Every Thursday night at 7 p.m. at The Holy Grail Pub (64 Main St., Epping, 679-9559, holygrailrestaurantandpub.com), featuring Shipyard Prelude, Founders Porter (Jan. 23) and Sam Adams Cold Snap (Jan. 30).
- **9TH ANNUAL NH WINE WEEK** runs from Mon., Jan. 27, through Sun., Feb. 2, with the Winter Wine Spectacular on Thurs., Jan. 30, in-store wine tastings at NH Liquor and Wine Outlet locations, educational seminars, bottle signings, wine

dinners and more. Visit nhwine-week.com for a full schedule of events.

- **CELLAR NOTES: MANCHESTER** Wed., Jan. 29, from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the Puritan Conference & Event Center (245 Hooksett Road, Manchester) seminar-style wine tasting with four leading wine experts, including President and Co-Founder of Folio Wines (Spellbound), co-owner of Klinker Brick Wines, Ravenswood winemaker Joel Peterson and the owner of Hand-Craft Artisan Collection Wines. Tickets cost \$35; limited seating. Call 1-888-368-8880.
- **ICE BAR** Wed., Feb. 5, through Sat., Feb. 8, at Bedford Village Inn (2 Olde Bedford Way, Bedford, 472-2001, bedfordvillageinn.com).
- **THE ROMANCE OF WINE** Wine tasting on Fri., Feb. 14, at 6 p.m. Tasting and hors d'oeuvres at IncrediBREW (112 Daniel Webster Hwy., Nashua, 891-2477, incredibrew.com). Tickets cost \$30 per couple.
- **STOUTS 'N SNACKS** Thur., Feb. 27, at 6 p.m., New Vanilla Stout and Black Satin Stout brewing at IncrediBREW (112 Daniel Webster Hwy., Nashua, 891-2477, incredibrew.com) with recipes that use beer. Cost \$35 for variety case, bottles included (or \$30 without bottles).

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Simple Substitutions

January is the month that many of us set goals for weight loss or start thinking about weight control. By making simple adjustments to your favorite meals and controlling portion sizes, you will achieve your weight loss goal. Here are some simple substitutions to help get you started to a healthier you in 2014 and beyond:

Eat More	Eat Less	Reason
Sweet Potato	White Potato	Sweet potato is packed with Vitamin A. Deep orange colored produce items are packed with carotenoids - which may help fight against cancer.
Fresh Express® Spinach, Kale, Arugula	Iceberg Lettuce	Iceberg lettuce is lacking in the vitamin department. Enjoy darker greens for a burst of vitamins - like A, C, K and folic acid.
Brown Rice	White Rice	A simple adjustment to your stir-fry bumps up the nutritional profile of your meal and will keep you feeling full.
Fresh and Sodium Free Seasoning	Salty, Heavy Marinades	Add flavor to your steamed or sautéed veggies by squeezing a fresh lemon wedge or exploring the McCormick® Perfect Pinch® Sodium Free spice line. Enjoy the flavor without the salt and fat.
I Can't Believe It's Not Butter®, Promise®, Country Crock®	Butter	Country Crock®, Promise® and I Can't Believe It's Not Butter!® Spreads are a smart choice for you and your guests because they offer great taste and less saturated fat and cholesterol than butter!

Interested in learning more?

Our registered dietitians hold classes, have on-the-sales-floor nutrition demonstrations and do healthy store tours. They can give you the information you need to make the healthy life style changes you want.

You can also email a private message to our staff registered dietitian, for free nutrition advice at hannaford.com/dietitians.



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some Saturdays, 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.

East Side Hannaford
859 Hanover St.
Fridays, 10:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.



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Thursdays, 3 p.m. - 8 p.m.
Fridays, 3 p.m. - 8 p.m.

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Store Schedule Coming Soon!



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Susan is available
Tuesdays, 2 p.m. - 6 p.m.



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Includes listings for lectures, author events, book clubs, writers' workshops and other literary events.

To let us know about your book or event, e-mail Kelly Sennott at ksennott@hippopress.com. To get author events, library events and more listed, send information to listings@hippopress.com.

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Have a Nice Life, *The Unnatural World* (Flenser Records)

HAVE A NICE LIFE
the unnatural world



From somewhere in western Massachusetts comes this haunted sludge-goth duo, UMass grads whose Twittering and whatnot on the subject of their demos and EP led to a proper song-streaming from NPR. Their first LP was the *Deathconsciousness* double album, similar to this in that it fused Swans-drone with mollusk-speed My Bloody Valentine, but opening track "Guggenheim Wax Museum" ups the band's ante in the drone space, a portrait of SunnO))) writing a dance song for *American Horror Story: Coven* (the cover photo sort of helped lead me there too, I'll admit). "Defenestration Song," with its tyrannosaur-stalking riff dolled up in garish Birthday Party-style raw production, salutes the industrial-noise flag; "Burial Society" does a Bauhaus-vs-glitch thing. And then it's Swans-drone again at "Music Will Untune The Sky." Such diversity will be adored by certain indie-nerds for sure, and the riffy stuff will provide carpool acquaintances of said nerds relief from the intolerable doom-loops. A- — *Eric W. Saeger*

Twin Forks, *Twin Forks* (Dine Alone Records)



Even emo-bashers should be able to deal with this project, led by Dashboard Confessional singer Chris Carrabba, who claims that this heavily bluegrassified Mumford/Arcade Fire hybrid is where his heart lies. "Kiss Me Darling" is loud but pure Americana, its curveball a one-drop section that would fit on a Passafire single, but for the most part this is about hayseed-barnyard stomp, not simply owing to all the banjo parts but because of the overall whiskey-slhammering feel of tunes like "Can't Be Broken," its John Bonham drums turning the thing into a redneck version of Gaelic Storm. Speaking of that, "Scraping Up the Pieces" puts on certain Celtic ren-fair airs of its own in a stubborn straying from the Americana angle, which apparently isn't set in stone for the band. But it fits, certainly, and meanwhile Carrabba sounds particularly jacked during "Something We Just Know," which at one point reads like the most well-produced jug band you could ever hear. Lots of enthusiasm here, no denying that. A — *Eric W. Saeger*

PLAYLIST

A seriously abridged compendium of recent and future album releases

- Wingnut moonbat jackass PJ Harvey-wannabe **Barbara Tren-talange** releases her third album, *Same Illusion*, next week. "Reconnected" is the first single, a tolerable tune if you like hearing creepy techie songs that have Monkees keyboards and neo-Beach Boys choruses. Trentalange recently became a mother, in case you were looking for someone to pray for before bedtime.

- If you ever wanted to hear something that sounds like Karen Carpenter singing '80s-pop, you'll be pleased to know about **Dum Dum Girls**, whose "Lost Boys And Girls Club" is exactly that. The record was produced by Richard Gottehrer, who wrote "Hang on Sloopy" and "My Boyfriend's Back" around the year 1741. This band consists of chicks in leather minis and teased 1980s hair, the only things left alive that can save rock 'n' roll.

- Ha ha, it's the Gandalf of old hippie stoners, **David Crosby**, with a new album! This new album is called *Croz*, which is probably his nickname, usually only spoken aloud by stoned purple deer in the psychedelic forest when they are asking if there's any beer left in the keg. If you're old, or one of those trust-fund Phish kids, you've heard of this happily crazy person, and you know he's been around for over 200 years, playing songs with his friends, Stills, Nash and Young, when they can bear the smell, and you also know he's had more drug problems than anyone, ever. But guess how many studio albums this hopelessly baked walrus-muppet has recorded over the centuries? Go ahead, guess. Nope, wrong, *Croz* is his FOURTH. That makes an average of one album every 50 years. But anyway, the album's first YouTube is for the song "What's Broken," featuring Mark Knopfler. Honestly, I expected this song to be so lame that I'd just turn to stone and smash into smithereens on the floor, but it's not. In fact, it's pretty cool if you like Christopher Cross-style dentist music, even if it rips off "Cinnamon Girl" a little bit. Epic win by this stoned Wilford Brimley. Also, Crosby literally doesn't have any money at all, so maybe you could just buy the stupid thing instead of risking jail time on that Pirate Bay thing. Some people are too old and stoned to tour, so please help this guy buy his prunes, so he can sprinkle medical marijuana on them, to save rock 'n' roll.

- One of my PR providers asked me if I wanted to review the upcoming new **Red Dragon Cartel** album, but I think I forgot to request it, so let's just briefly discuss this heavy metal album, featuring former Ozzy guitarist Jake E. Lee, who played on the Ozzy album about the werewolf or whatnot. "Feeder" is one song from this new album (out next week), and it features the singing of semi-retired Cheap Trick singer Robin Zander, who's trying to sound like Ozzy during this plodding disposable song. What's that? Yes, Jake "unleashes" some "hot licks" that indeed do "totally bleed." — *Eric W. Saeger*

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Directors with merit

Series sets its sights on Hughes and Tarantino

By Kelly Sennott
ksennott@hippopress.com

Quentin Tarantino and John Hughes may not be in Oscar contention this year, but that doesn't mean they don't deserve a little extra attention.

The directors are being featured this month and next, respectively, as part of Red River Theatre's "Directors and Their Craft" series. They, along with the others in this series, have been pivotal to the way we view films today.

"I'd like to think they [the featured directors] all have distinct merit for what they did within the film industry," Barry Steelman, a programming consultant at Red River Theatres, said in a phone interview between movie showings last Thursday evening.

The series is a six-month "exploration" of the filmmaking art. During one week each month, Red River Theatres will show two works intended to deepen the viewer's perception of the month's director. After each film, there will be a panel discussion with film scholars, critics and/or local filmmakers, which will also be mediated by Steelman.

"It's a small series for us, but we have a steady core of people who show up," said Red River Theatres Executive Director Shelly Hudson. "Typically, we'll show a film that's first from earlier in the director's career followed by one created later. ... Barry and the guests will discuss the elements of style for each director and the influences they had. It's a robust discussion for any film-lover."

Tarantino's *Reservoir Dogs* was shown on Tuesday, Jan. 21, and his film *Pulp Fiction* will be screened on Thursday, Jan. 23, at 6 p.m. The next featured director is John Hughes; Red River will show *Sixteen Candles* on Tuesday, Feb. 25, at 6 p.m., followed by *Ferris Bueller's Day Off* on Thursday, Feb. 27, at 6 p.m.

There are no set criteria for the selected

Check out Directors & Their Craft

Where: Red River Theatres, 11 S. Main St., Concord

When: Quentin Tarantino's *Pulp Fiction* (R, 1994) is on Thursday, Jan. 23, at 6 p.m.; John Hughes's *Sixteen Candles* (R, 1984) is on Tuesday, Feb. 25, at 6 p.m.; and his *Ferris Bueller's Day Off* (R, 1984) is on Thursday, Feb. 27, at 6 p.m. Each film will be followed by a discussion mediated by Barry Steelman that includes local filmmakers, critics, scholars, etc. The series will focus on more directors in the coming months; view at redrivetheatres.org or call 224-4600.

Admission: \$10 for a single film/discussion or \$15 for the pair for each featured director



Red River Theatres shows *Pulp Fiction* on Jan. 23.

directors for the series; in fact, the highlighted directors for the following months are still to be determined, and Hudson encourages potential viewers to present suggestions. Thus far, the theater has shown films by and discussions about Steven Spielberg, Orson Welles, Sam Peckinpah and Leni Riefenstahl, a female German filmmaker whose career took off in the 1930s.

"It gives people who are interested in movie directors [a chance] to discuss what makes them unique in their approach to filmmaking," Steelman said. "Every director has a different take, a different attitude in what they create."

Both Tarantino and Hughes have provided significant work to film in their own rights, Steelman said.

"With Tarantino, probably one of the most recognizable characteristics in both *Reservoir Dogs* and *Pulp Fiction* is that the plot unfolds out of sequence. Sometimes you're seeing things that are taking place in the future, and then it will flash back to something earlier in the storyline," Steelman said.

We've since seen the style quite a bit, Steelman said, but at the time of their releases, this use of time was kind of unique.

"I'd say that a lot of filmmakers picked up on that sort of presentation style and copied it. ... It's a dynamic use of the medium that can be used to punch across key elements in the story that, were you to do it in a linear fashion, wouldn't be as effective," Steelman said.

Hughes, on the other hand, was able to reach out to young people with his direction.

"His movies dealt with some of the things that young people were involved with and presented them in a fashion that young people appreciated. They went to see the films in pretty good numbers," Steelman said. "I think they felt he was hitting a nerve, that they were seeing something of their own existence in what was being presented in the stories." 🍷

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TOP 10 Weddings

For the week of Jan. 13
(Barnesandnoble.com)

- 1 The Wedding Planner & Organizer**
By Mindy Weiss
Hardcover, January 2012
- 2 The Knot Ultimate Wedding Planner & Organizer [binder edition]: Worksheets, Checklists, Etiquette, Calendars, and Answers to Frequently Asked Questions**
By Carley Roney
Hardcover, January 2013
- 3 The Wedding Book: The Big Book for Your Big Day**
By Mindy Weiss, Lisbeth Levine
Paperback, April 2008
- 4 The Ultimate Wedding Planner and Organizer: Celebrating the Most Memorable Day of Our Life!**
By Alex A. Lluch
Hardcover, September 2009
- 5 The Very Best Wedding Planner, Organizer and Keepsake**
By Alex A. Lluch, Elizabeth Lluch
Hardcover, December 2010
- 6 The Knot Ultimate Wedding Planner [Revised Edition]: Worksheets, Checklists, Etiquette, Timelines, and Answers to Frequently Asked Questions**
By Carley Roney
Paperback, March 2013
- 7 The Everything Mother of the Bride Book: The Ultimate Wedding Planning Guide for Mom!**
By Katie Martin
Paperback, December 2012
- 8 The Knot Complete Guide to Weddings: The Ultimate Source of Ideas, Advice, and Relief for the Bride and Groom and Those Who Love Them**
By Carley Roney, The Editors of TheKnot.com
Paperback, December 2012
- 9 The Knot Book of Wedding Lists: The Ultimate Guide to the Perfect Day, down to the Smallest Detail**
By Carley Roney, Knot Editors (Editor)
Paperback, December 2007
- 10 All the Essentials Wedding Planner: The Ultimate Tool for Organizing Your Big Day**
By Alison Hotchkiss
Hardcover, December 2012

The Accidental Universe: The World You Thought You Knew (by Alan Lightman, Pantheon, 145 pages)

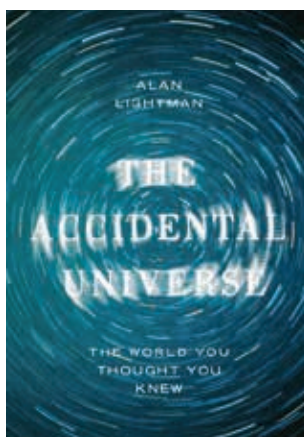
Cross a poet and a theoretical physicist, and you get *The Accidental Universe*, a sweeping and erudite takedown of humanity's importance in the vast collection of universes known as the multiverse.

The word "multiverse" is not new; it was used by philosopher William James in an 1895 essay titled "Is Life Worth Living?" But its implications today are causing Lightman and colleagues to ponder a new question: Is astrophysics worth studying?

Here's the problem, as explained by physicist Alan Lightman in his new book: Twenty-five years ago, scientists thought they were on the brink of figuring everything out, corralling three known and one as-of-yet-unknown fundamental forces into one unifying "Theory of Everything" that explained the cosmos with simple laws of mathematics and logic.

But now, two rude interlopers — the concepts of eternal inflation and string theory — have scientists believing that those fundamental principles confirm the multiverse — vast numbers of universes with wildly different properties.

"It is," Lightman writes, "as if you walked into a shoe store, had your feet measured, and found that a size 5 would fit you, a size 8 would also fit, and a size 12 would



fit equally well. Such wishy-washy results make theoretical physicists very unhappy."

If true, "We are living in a universe uncalculable by science," he says.

The conundrum is explored in seven connected essays in which Lightman dons both hats he wore as a professor at MIT, where he taught both science and humanities. How one man can be a best-selling novelist,

an Ivy League professor and a theoretical physicist in one lifetime is as befuddling as the cosmological mysteries Lightman explores. Thankfully, he's also a poet, which may explain the best-selling part. Few of us down here on Planet Ordinary could make it past the first chapter if he wrote like most physicists talk.

This is not to say that *The Accidental Universe* is a casual read; at times, it appears the editor was Sandra Bullock, drifting off into space at inopportune times. Example: "If the theoretically possible values for dark energy were marked out on a rule stretching from here to the sun, the value of dark energy actually found in our universe (10^{-8} ergs per cubic centimeter) would be closer to the zero end than the width of an atom."

Discuss, and I'll come back when you're done.

But mercifully, most of the sentences like that are in the first essay, and like the universe itself, Lightman's prose cools and flattens as it expands. The author has

a gift for crafting simple and memorable analogies, like the shoe-store one, to make difficult concepts plain. Also, a rare quality among atheists — to talk of spiritual matters with reverence, not disdain.

".. As long as God does not intervene in the contemporary universe in such a way as to violate physical laws, science has no way of knowing whether God exists or not," he writes.

But Lightman does a good job of making God seem unnecessary, explaining astonishing shows of symmetry in nature — be it a planet, jellyfish or bubble — as a necessary economy. "One physical principle that governs nature over and over is the 'energy principle': nature evolves to minimize energy," he writes. The simplicity and beauty of a honeycomb, for example — each cell a hexagon with identical walls — need not be explained by Intelligent Design, but by how a compact structure with no disorder or gaps conserves the energy of bees.

In George Cooke's 1841 painting "Tallulah Falls," a group of people gape and point at the massive mountain, canyon and forest that surround them. Dwarfed by the scene, "the humans beings are mere witnesses to a scene they are not part of and could never be a part of," Lightman writes.

Our galaxy has 200 billion stars. To get to the nearest one, other than our sun, it would take you 5 million years traveling at jet speed, 500 miles per hour. It takes a ray of light 100,000 years to get from one side of the Milky Way to the other. Intellectually, we're all at Tallulah Falls, humbled and astonished. Lightman's a ridiculously qualified tour guide. **B** — Jennifer Graham

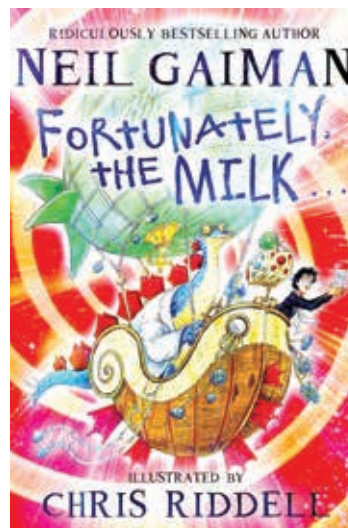
CHILDREN'S ROOM

A weekly recommendation from the Concord Public Library

Fortunately the Milk

by Neil Gaiman, illustrated by Skottie Young, 2013
(Fiction, ages 8-12)

This imaginative book combines dinosaurs, aliens, dancing dwarves, volcanoes and (of course) milk in one very funny, crazy adventure. Young's delightfully quirky illustrations throughout only add to the fun. Who could ask for more?



OUT NEXT WEEK

Still Life with Bread Crumbs

By Anna Quindlen



Hits shelves: Jan. 28

Author best known for: Self-help book *A Short Guide to a Happy Life* as well as novels like *One True Thing*

One-sentence review: "Quindlen has always excelled at capturing telling details in a story, and she does so again in this quiet, powerful novel, showing the charged emotions that teem beneath the surface of daily life." — Publisher's Weekly

Book Report



• **Reserve tickets now to see Lois Lowry:** The Newbery Award-winning author of *Number the Stars* and *The Giver* visits Central High School, 207 Lowell St., on Saturday, April 26, at 2 p.m. The event, which is sponsored by the New Hampshire Humanities Council's Connections adult literacy program, will include a presentation by Lowry and a question/

answer period, followed by a book signing. Visit her website at loislowry.com. The event is free and open to all, but space is limited and tickets are required; reserve seats at nhhc.org, call 224-0471.

• **A day of books:** The Derry Public Library (64 E. Broadway, Derry, 432-6140) hosts a sleuth of authors on its Midwinter Authors Day, on Saturday, Feb. 1, from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. The presenters include Lyn Miller-Lachmann, Terry Farish, Brendan Halpin, N. Griffin and Erin Bowman. The event is aimed at readers age 12 through adult, and visitors will get tips on writing; learn about agents and publishing; get books signed; and they can bring their own work to read at an Open Mike that follows. There will also be an on-site book sale hosted by Water Street Bookstore, waterstreetbooks.com. Visit derrypl.org or email erinr@derrypl.org.

• **Want to learn how to tell stories?** Stories told through the spoken word can be just as effective as those told through writing. The trick is in the delivery. Pontine Theatre is presenting a four-session Storytelling Workshop, a community arts program open to all adults 18 years and older, which will be offered Tuesdays, Feb. 11 through March 4, from 5:45 to 7:15 p.m. at Pontine's West End Studio Theatre, 959 Islington St., Portsmouth. The sessions will be led by Pontine's co-artistic directors Greg Gathers and Marguerite Matthews, who will coach participants through the process of developing and performing a story for an audience, with the final, on Tuesday, March 4, aimed at providing opportunity for participants to share stories with the community. Tuition for the workshop is by donation, and people of all experiences are invited to participate. — *Kelly Sennott*

Books

Author events

• **HEDRICK SMITH** speaks on Thurs., Jan. 23, at the Unitarian Universalist Church, 669 Union St., Manchester.

• **LYNN LYONS** talks about *Anxious Kids, Anxious Parents* at Gibson's Bookstore, 45 S. Main St., Concord, on Mon., Jan. 23, at 7 p.m. Call 224-0562, visit gibsonsbookstore.com.

• **MATTHEW E. THOMAS** presents a lecture on the stories of New England historic powder houses at Millyard Museum, 200 Bedford St., Manchester, on Sat., Jan. 25, at 10:30 a.m., who will talk about his book, *Historic Powder Houses of New England*. Admission \$8 adults, \$6 seniors

and students, \$4 children 12-18. Call 622-7531, manchesterhistoric.org.

• **TERESA SANTOSKI** signs her book, *Prayers for Oppa* on Sat., Jan. 25, at 6:30 p.m., at The Cozy Tea Cart, 104 Route 13, Brookline.

• **THOMAS MOORE** talks about/signs *A Religion of One's Own: A Guide to Creating a Personal Spirituality in a Secular World* on Sat., Feb. 1, at 11 a.m., at Toadstool Bookshop, 12 Depot Square, Peterborough.

• **MIDWINTER AUTHORS AFTERNOON** at the Derry Public Library, 64 E. Broadway, Derry, on Sat., Feb. 1, at 1:30 p.m. Presenting Lyn Miller-Lachmann, Terry Farish, Brendan

Halpin, N. Griffin and Erin Bowman. Author readings, Q/A, book sale, signing. Visit derrypl.org, call 432-6140 for details. Open mic (two-minute readings) to follow. On-site book sale hosted by Water Street Books.

• **MARTY KELLY** author of books like *Fall is Not Easy* and *Winter Woes* presents at the Hollis Social Library, 2 Monument Square, Hollis, 465-7721, hollislibrary.org, on Sat., Feb. 1, 2-3:30 p.m.

• **DAN SZCZESNY** talks about *The Adventures of Buffalo and Tough Cookie* at the Hollis Social Library, 2 Monument Square, Hollis, on Sat., Feb. 1, 11 a.m.-3:30 p.m.; at the Amherst Public Library, 14 Main St., Amherst, on Tues., April 8, at 7 p.m.; at the Griffin Free Library, 22 Hooksett Road, Auburn, at 6:30 p.m

• **SONIA SOTOMAYOR** talks about her memoir, *My Beloved World*, on Wed., Feb. 5, at 7:30 p.m., at The Music Hall Historic Theater, 28 Chestnut St., Portsmouth, 766-2192. Tickets are \$13.25, and with each 1-2 tickets sold, the purchase of a \$15.95 book voucher is required.

• **THE DAY THAT MADE ROBERT FROST** presentation on Mon., Feb. 10, at 6:30 p.m., at the Derry Public Library, 64 E. Broadway, Derry, 432-6140, by Derry Town Historian Rick Holmes. Free.

• **B.J. NOVAK** presents *One More Thing* on Tues., Feb. 11, at 7:30 p.m., at The Music Hall Historic Theater, 28 Chestnut St., Portsmouth. Tickets \$13.25. Signed copies \$22.45 when reserved in advance through purchase of voucher. Call 436-2400, visit themusichall.org.

• **JESSIE CROCKETT** discusses new book, *Drizzled with Death*, at Hooksett Library, 31 Mount Saint Mary's Way, Hooksett, on Thurs., Feb. 13, at 6:30 p.m. Free.

Lectures and discussions

• **EXOTIC DESTINATIONS LECTURE SERIES** at the Nashua Public Library, 2 Court St., Nashua, through January. Peter Christoph presents adventures hiking Mt. Kilimanjaro on Thurs., Jan. 23, at 7 p.m.; and Marina Forbes presents "An Insider's Guide to Russia Today" on Thurs., Jan. 30, at 7 p.m. Registration not required. Visit nashualibrary.org/directions.htm, email carol.eyman@nashualibrary.org, call 589-4610. All are free events.

• **A WOMAN'S GUIDE TO MONEY MATTERS: FINANCIAL SERIES WITH KIM PONDERS** presentation Thurs., Jan. 23, at 7 p.m., at Hollis Social Library, 2 Monument Square, Hollis, 465-7721, director@hollislibrary.org.

Meet the Author: Lynn Lyons, LICSW

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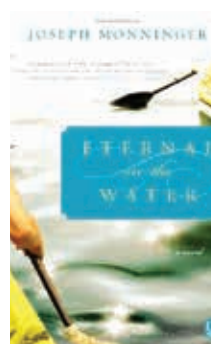
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FROM THE BOOKSHELF

***Eternal on the Water* By Joseph Monninger (Gallery Books, 2010)**

Joseph Monninger was one of my favorite professors and my advisor at Plymouth State University, so I may be a little bit partial when I describe all of the reasons why I love this book. I can almost hear Monninger reading the novel to me in his own voice, describing a romance between two main characters that isn't forced or too sickly sweet, but just right. In a risky move, Monninger starts the book off on a grim note with the death of Mary Fury, one of his main characters.

With that tragedy out of the way, Monninger devotes the rest of the book to telling the love story of Mary and Cobb. New Englanders can appreciate Cobb's search for Henry David Thoreau and his meeting Mary while kayaking on the river in Maine. Their travels bring them to various places around the world, from New England to Indonesia to Yellowstone National Park. No matter the setting, Monninger has a great



way of telling a story without being overdramatic.

Instead, readers come to appreciate these characters and relate to their struggles as real people, fiercely in love but dealing with life's curveballs. Cobb and

Mary are well-developed, approachable characters. We get to know Mary's quirkiness and fun-loving personality and Cobb's steady and analytical approach to life.

What appears like an unlikely pairing gives readers a glimpse into true love and the value of precious time. This novel lets readers feel happiness, hope, sadness and overall appreciation for the human spirit. *Eternal on the Water* isn't the kind of novel I would usually pick up, but I had to read it knowing Monninger wrote it, and I was not disappointed. I would gladly read this book over and over again, to feel the joy and sorrow of these characters like I was right there with them on their journey. —
Stefanie Phillips

• **PILLS, TABLETS AND CAPSULES, AND THAT WAS JUST MY MORNING!** presentation by Concord Regional Visiting Nurse Association rep at Hooksett Public Library, 31 Mount Saint Marys Way, Hooksett, 485-6092, on Tues., Jan. 28, at 10 a.m. Visit hooksetlibrary.org to register.

• **PAIRING TEA WITH CHOCOLATE** presentation by the owner of The Cozy Tea Cart Danielle Beaudette on Thurs., Jan. 30, at 7 p.m., at the Lawrence Barn, 28 Depot Road, Hollis. Call 465-7721, sign-up closes three days before event.

• **PORTSMOUTH BLACK HERITAGE TRAIL LECTURE SERIES** at Discover Portsmouth, 10 Middle St., Portsmouth, on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of the month, 2-4 p.m. Free. Visit 436-8433, email jaboggis@portsmouthhistory.org.

• "Tuskegee Airman: One Man's Story" by James Shepard on Sun., Feb. 2; "Being Black in New Hampshire: Two Hundred Years of African American Writers in the Granite State" by Jeff Bolster on Sun., Feb. 9; *Black Indians: an American Story*, film and Discussion lead by Siobhan Senior; "12 Years a Slave" panel discussion lead by Joe Onosko; "The Making of a Novel" by Virginia L. Towler on Sun., March 9; *The Negro Sailor* film and discussion with former submariner Alexander Welch on Sun., March 23; "New Hamp-

shire's Battle for Civil Rights: A 50 Year Retrospective" by Valerie Cunningham on Sun., April 13; "No Longer Hidden: Blacks of Early Kittery and Berwick, Maine" by Patricia Wall on Sun., April 27.

• **SHERLOCK HOLMES** presentation at the Nashua Public Library (2 Court St., Nashua, 589-4600, nashualibrary.org) on Sun., Feb. 9, from 2 to 4 p.m. This event is free and will explore the popularity of Sherlock Holmes in pop culture.

• **TRIBUTE TO ELLA FITZGERALD** Nanette Perrotte tells story of famed jazz singer Ella Fitzgerald at the Nashua Public Library, 2 Court St., Nashua, on Sun., Jan. 26, at 2 p.m. Register at tinyurl.com/npllectures. Registration required. Free event.

• **MERYL STREEP** speaks at UMass-Lowell Tsongas Center (300 Martin Luther King Jr. Way, Lowell) as part of its Chancellor's Speaker Series on Wed., Feb. 5. Details announced at later date; visit uml.edu/streep for updates.

• **FOUNDATIONS OF INVESTING** presentation by Kim Ponders on Thurs., Feb. 6, at 7 p.m., at Library Meeting Room, Hollis Social Library, 2 Monument Square, Hollis, 465-7721, hollislibrary.org. Geared to people new to investing.

• **WHAT DO I READ NEXT?** presentation at the Hollis Social Library, 2 Monument Square,

Hollis, 465-7721, hollislibrary.org, on Mon., Feb. 10, at 2 p.m.; Mon., Feb. 10, at 7 p.m. Demo of easy-to-use computer tools to help you find new books.

Book discussions

• **THE BOOK CELLAR** in Nashua hosts a book club that meets on the first Wed. of each month, new members always welcome. The Book Cellar is at 34 Northwest Blvd., Nashua, in the Westside Plaza, 881-5570, www.bookcellaronline.com.

• **BOOKS IN THE MILL** spring book group series with Manchester City Library and Manchester Historic Association. Meets Thursdays at Manchester City Library mezzanine (405 Pine St., Manchester), 6:30-8 p.m., manchester.unh.edu/events.

• **CLASSICS CROWD** at Milford Toadstool Bookshop reads 19th-century British classics and meets every other month to discuss books voted on by consensus. New members always welcome. Meets on the third Thursday of the month. Visit toadstool.indiebound.com/event for book titles.

• **GIBSON'S BOOKSTORE** hosts monthly book discussions. Everyone is welcome to come for all or any of the dates. All discussion titles are 25 percent off until the date of their discussion. All meetings at 7 p.m. on the first Monday of the month unless otherwise noted.

Ride Along (PG-13)

Ice Cube continues his career as gruff dude with a cuddly heart, here playing comedy straight man to the wackiness of Kevin Hart, with *Ride Along*, a variation on the buddy cop movie that feels like a really long sitcom pilot.

Hey, TBS turned *Are We There Yet?*, an earlier Ice Cube comedy, into a sitcom, so why not this? They need something to break up all those *The King of Queens* and *Friends* reruns.

Ben Barber (Kevin Hart) is excited to be on the brink of major life changes. Fulfilling a lifelong dream, he's just been accepted into the police academy and hopes to soon join the Atlanta police department. And, now that he knows his professional future is secure, he plans to propose to girlfriend Angela (Tika Sumpter). The one hitch is Angela's brother James Payton (Ice Cube). An Atlantic police detective, James doesn't think Ben is up to either challenge — the police department or marrying his sister. He decides to prove it to Ben by taking him on a ride-along, for which he's planned lots of difficulty and embarrassment for Ben. But James is also working a case against a criminal named Omar, a man dealing in all kinds of badness who is best known for being unknown — even his men don't know what he looks like. Even though James had hoped to use the ride-along as an opportunity to haze and discourage Ben (from joining both the police force and his family), he soon finds that the spazzy Ben is actually kind of helpful, in part for his extensive knowledge of weaponry thanks to hours spent playing military video games.

The words “Andy Samberg police comedy” did not have me psyched back before I saw the first episode of *Brooklyn Nine-Nine* but now that Fox comedy is one of my favorites. So maybe the sitcom version of *Ride Along* would be fun too — one of those shows where writing and ensemble chemistry would make the difference between middling “meh” and being a show worth DVR space.

As a movie, *Ride Along* still feels like a concept awaiting good writing and ensemble chemistry. Hart and Ice Cube aren't bad, but they are still mostly doing their own standard shticks, not developing new characters. Hart here plays, as he so often does, a man who brings to mind a squirrel frantically searching for that nut he knows he buried somewhere around here. Ice Cube can't seem to let a chance to mug for the camera slip past him — here, the most egregious example is when he winkingly references his own “It Was A Good Day.” (Hey, wanna feel old? The song was released 21 years ago February. You're welcome.)

Ride Along is exactly what it promises it will be — a movie built as a frame for not-trying-too-hard comedy from Ice Cube and Kevin Hart. **C+**

Rated PG-13 for sequences of violence,



Ride Along

sexual content and brief strong language. Directed by Tim Story with a screenplay by Greg Coolidge and Jason Mantzoukas and Phil Hay & Matt Manfredi, Ride Along is an hour and 40 minutes long and distributed by Universal Pictures.

August: Osage County (R)

Grown daughters converge to confront their difficult mother in *August: Osage County*, a well-acted but stagi-written family drama.

Beverly Weston (Sam Shepard) hires a woman, Johnna (Misty Upham), to cook and clean and help take care of his wife, Violet (Meryl Streep), who has cancer. Violet's real problem, though, is that she's a drug addict — addicted to the pain killers given to her for her disease and to whatever pills she was taking long before she got sick. Beverly is himself a serious drinker and, as we come to guess, probably a long-term sufferer of depression. Shortly after hiring Johnna, Beverly disappears and their grown daughter Ivy (Julianne Nicholson) calls her sisters to come and help look after Violet.

Barbara (Julia Roberts), bitter and dealing with a troubled marriage, nonetheless travels from Denver back to Oklahoma with her husband, Bill (Ewan McGregor), and their 14-year-old daughter Jean (Abigail Breslin). It isn't until after Beverly has been found dead that youngest sister Karen (Juliette Lewis) arrives with her fiancé, Steve (Dermot Mulroney). Though Violet is a bile-spewing, rage-filled old woman from the moment the movie begins, it's when all her daughters and their significant others as well as her sister, Mattie Fae (Margo Martindale), and her sister's husband, Charlie (Chris Cooper), and son, Little Charles (Benedict Cumberbatch), show up that the yelling and the truth telling really starts.

That's a lot of acting talent packed into those two paragraphs, specifically Streep, Shepard, Roberts, Nicholson, Martindale, Cooper and Cumberbatch. The entire cast — but those actors in particular — make you believe their characters. Roberts is a much more interesting

actress than she was back when her character's defining traits were curly hair and falling in love. She can do a harsh edge without becoming shrill. Martindale and Streep are such pros you could imagine watching a movie about them having coffee together. (Followed by a short made up entirely of world-weary sighs from Shepard and Cooper.) Cumberbatch makes his rather backbone-less character seem beaten without seeming wimpy. We can see the kindness and even the strength in him even as we can see his weakness.

The perplexing thing about *August: Osage County* is how thoroughly I believed in the actors even while I completely failed to believe most of what they said. Perhaps because the author of the play by the same name just couldn't translate the lines from stage to screen or perhaps because the movie didn't really try, just hoping that the shots of wide-open Oklahoma would make everything feel cinematic, a good deal of the dialogue sounds stagi. One of the things that made me (and others) marvel at Joss Whedon's *Much Ado About Nothing* was the way that the actors sounded relatively natural reciting 400-year-old dialogue. The characters sold the idea that they were thinking the words (or at least the sentiments) they were saying, that this was Beatrice and Benedick talking, not Amy Acker and Alexis Denisof reading Beatrice's and Benedick's parts.

August gets you halfway there. I felt at times like I was listening to Barbara read the Barbara part — which is better than saying Julia Roberts reading the Barbara dialogue. But as much as I found myself interested in or fascinated by the individual characters and their stories, I couldn't buy in, never all the way, to what they were saying. Even with Streep — and I would say Streep and Roberts came the closest to owning their dialogue — somewhere in every scene was at least one moment when you could see the strings, picture the words on the page. It shows an unfinished quality in the script, but also it's a distracting element in the movie.

And a movie this high pitched did not need

another false element. *August* is packed with a lot of yelling, a lot of physical roughness and a lot of “shocking” family moments. This much melodrama needed strong actors selling natural dialogue to keep the movie from sliding in to soap opera. Unfortunately, it only got half of that. **C+**

Rated R for language, sexual references and for drug material. Directed by John Wells with a screenplay by Tracy Letts (from her play of the same name), August: Osage County is two hours and one minute long and distributed by The Weinstein Company.

Jack Ryan: Shadow Recruit (PG-13)

Chris Pine secures his status as Mr. Reboot by reviving Tom Clancy's most famous character in *Jack Ryan: Shadow Recruit*, a movie that gives us a buffer, more butt-kicking Ryan.

Or at least buffer and more butt-kicking than Alec Baldwin in *The Hunt for Red October*, a movie that seems to show up on cable more than the Harrison Ford Jack Ryan movies or the completely forgettable Ben Affleck stab at Jack Ryan.

Because it is the easiest way to get an audience on edge, *Jack Ryan: Shadow Recruit* starts with a young economics student Jack Ryan (Pine) watching news coverage on TV from London on Sept. 11. A few years hence and he is in Afghanistan, where we learn that his hobby is writing analytical intelligence reports that his higher-ups ignore. After his helicopter is shot down, he spends several months in physical therapy, regaining use of and strength in his legs and making two important new friends. The first is his physical therapist, med-student Cathy Muller (Keira Knightley), who agrees to go out with him after his time as a patient is up. The second is Thomas Harper (Kevin Costner), a CIA agent who has read all those reports Ryan wrote.

Jump forward 10 years and we see Ryan living with Cathy and posing as a security official for a financial firm on Wall Street. But unbeknownst to Cathy and the people Ryan works for, he is actually a CIA agent, using his position to be on the lookout for financial transactions connected to terrorism. We might be fighting new wars but because this is a Tom Clancy-inspired tale Ryan finds potential villainy in familiar quarters: Russia. He heads to Moscow to investigate Viktor Cherevin (Kenneth Branagh, who takes time out from hamming it up as the big bad to also direct the movie), a man whom Ryan fears is planning two crippling attacks on the U.S. — one physical and one financial.

This Ryan seems to Jason Bourne it a little more than I recall from earlier films, but Pine carries it off just fine. He resembles a younger Matt Damon in a lot of ways — there's the same vaguely martial arts fighting style, the same earnestness. A minor subplot is that Cathy, who won't yet agree to mar-

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Jack Ryan: Shadow Recruit

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ry Jack, doesn't know about Ryan's real job and suspects he's cheating. That they've been together for 10 years and haven't gotten married or had the "oh, you mean *that* gun and badge" discussion yet seems a little far-fetched but no more far-fetched than an elaborate sequence wherein Ryan breaks into Cherevin's office or a taunting "you will suffer as we have suffered" phone call that scores a high-speed chase through Moscow.

As a movie to fill the "you may also enjoy" recommendations for those who watch any of the Bourne movies, *Jack Ryan: Shadow Recruit* is fine, slips right into its genre without making waves. Car chases, hand-to-hand combat, rushing to disarm a bomb — the movie checks all the boxes. None of its cast seem all that excited to be there or that interested in giving any real dimension to their characters, but nor does anybody go out of their way to stink up the joint — even Branagh's accent is (like his character) silly but passable.

Ultimately, though, the movie doesn't have the oomph — nor does Pine sparkle in this role the way he does as the rebooted Kirk in J.J. Abrams' *Star Trek* movies — to make it feel like something that will have audiences clamoring for the next chapter. C

Rated PG-13 for sequences of violence and intense action, and brief strong language. Directed by Kenneth Branagh and written by Adam Cozad and David Koepp (from the novels by Tom Clancy), Jack Ryan: Shadow Recruit is an hour and 46 minutes long and is distributed by Paramount Pictures.

The Nut Job (PG)

Unlikeable animal characters embark on a caper to steal enough nuts to feed an entire park full of furry creatures through the coming winter in *The Nut Job*, a tiresome, unpleasant animated movie.

Surly (voice of Will Arnett) is something of an outcast squirrel in his park. He and his rat friend, Buddy (Rob Tinkler, though the character doesn't really talk), are more or less on their own when it comes to finding food to store for winter. So when they spot a nut cart, they are actually working against fellow

squirrels Andie (Katherine Heigl) and Grayson (Brendan Fraser), who are also trying to score some nuts but are doing it to fill the stores guarded by Raccoon (Liam Neeson), park patriarch.

Andie tries to hector them into working together, but Surly's attempts at keeping the nuts all to himself end in the destruction of not just the nuts but all of the park's meager food stores. Surly is cast out of the park but potentially hits the jackpot when he winds up finding the nut store (from whence came the cart) featuring a variety and quantity of nuts to keep Surly and Buddy fat and happy through a dozen winters. Sent by Raccoon out into the world to find more food, Andie stumbles on Surly and his haul and asks to share it. Surly isn't so sure about this deal, but he does need some help getting the nuts away from the store, past the guard dog Precious (Maya Rudolph) and past the humans who run the nut store. And, as it turns out, the nut shop is run not by a pistachio connoisseur but by a group of crooks using it as a front to rob the bank across the street. So, while the animals work to find a way to get the nuts out of the basement, the humans are trying to tunnel into the bank with plans to replace bags of cash with bags of nuts.

There is even more to the plot: there's also the crook trying to convince his girlfriend that he's gone straight, and the park power dynamics that have Raccoon and his henchmoles controlling the other animals with food and painting the dimwitted Grayson as a big hero. And then there's the relationship between Surly and Andie, a familiar slow-to-build friendship between a by-the-rules gal and a breaks-the-rules guy. Sadly, more plot doesn't always mean better plot.

The bloated story of *The Nut Job* unnecessarily weighs down a movie that, with its wacky animal hijinks and goofy characters, should have been light and bubbly. (How much story does animal wackiness really need? The plot of most Looney Toons shorts could be summed up as "a coyote chases a bird.") Ultimately, though, the tonnage of plot isn't even the movie's biggest flaw. The

biggest problem of *The Nut Job* — one that a halving of the number of characters and story wrinkles might not have fixed but certainly would have been worth a try — is that the movie isn't fun, it isn't a world I enjoyed spending time in. The characters were unpleasant: Surly is exactly what his name promises but without the humor or kind heart that a character like that needs. Andie is as scoldy and unlikeable as, well, as every other character Heigl has played since well before *Knocked Up*. Neeson overdoes the grimness of his character and gives him an evil edge that is way too dark for a movie about wacky animals making "nut" puns. Only Rudolph's initially scary but goofily loveable Precious, a bulldog who is really just looking for friends, feels like a character you voluntarily want to introduce your kids to. Did she get a script for a different movie?

There is nothing fun or whimsical or silly or joyful about *The Nut Job* — not the nasty characters, the draggy story, the dialogue (which is surprising only in its meanness) or the lackluster animation. **D**

Rated PG for mild action and rude humor. Directed by Peter Lepeniotis with a screenplay by Lorne Cameron and Peter Lepeniotis (story by Daniel Woo and Peter Lepeniotis), The Nut Job is an hour and 26 minutes long and distributed by Open Road Films.

Devil's Due (R)
A newly married couple begins to think that their pregnancy is cursed in Devil's Due, a "found"-footage-style horror movie.

The movie opens with Zach McCall (Zach Gilford) covered in blood and sitting handcuffed in a police station, which is a clue that the fairy tale wedding we then flash back to does not work out as hoped. The first chunk of the movie is mostly Zach's videoing — he wants to create a visual history of his new life with Samantha (Allison Miller; it drove me nuts trying to figure out where I knew her from, but her credits put her all over TV for the last few years, most prominently in interesting but canceled projects such as *Go On*, *Terra Nova* and *Kings*).

He starts by capturing the night before their wedding, where we also learn that Samantha has no living family and was raised in the foster system. This turns out to be something of a red herring but, when paired with the vaguely voodoo nonsense that is forthcoming and the shaky-cam storytelling device, gives the whole movie a "hey, didn't I see this before" feel. ("I know nothing about my childhood" being the "Why won't the dog come in the house?" of couple-based horror films.)

The McCalls head to the Dominican Republic for a honeymoon of sexy beach videos and zip-lining. On their last night, after getting lost during a festival, they find a taxi to take them back to the hotel. Instead, the taxi driver (Roger Payano) first takes them to a rave for a celebratory drink — a cave-like

space, filled with dark corners where strange people lurk giving Samantha the hard stare. Sure, sounds like fun! After a few shots, the couple blacks out but we see brief clips of "accidental" videos featuring altars with candles and strange symbols and chanting in the background.

Apparently the McCalls don't bother to check their camera because when we next see them, they're just packing up to go home and complaining about what they think are hangovers. Once at home, they quickly learn that Samantha is pregnant. Yay, a honeymoon baby! But then strange things start happening: odd patches are appearing on Samantha's skin, she is having mood swings and is violently protective of her belly, she has strange cravings and she becomes convinced that Something Is Wrong with the Baby.

OK, so most women don't eat raw ground beef nor do their presences in church usually cause a priest (Sam Anderson) to have a stroke, but otherwise doesn't the above pretty much describe every pregnancy?


I suppose the real difference between Samantha and most other pregnant ladies is that most mothers-to-be can't unhinge their jaws, strange cult members don't follow them around and they don't kill and eat deer with their bare hands. Some of these things are caught on Zach's own videos and you'd think any one of them would have him concerned long before he actually enters final-act freak-out mode. The fact that he doesn't appear to go back and watch any of these moments until rather late in the story adds to the feeling that the movie isn't so much slowly building suspense as it is killing time until it gets to the big finish.

And then there's the "found video" conceit itself. The movie starts off by just showing us Zach's videos but eventually starts to show us the streaming video feed from cameras set up around the house by spooky someones and video feeds from store security cameras. Something about this feels like cheating.

In the *Paranormal Activity* movies (which this horror movie lazily uses as its template), the video camera subbed in for a character's point of view and then became a part of the investigation into the weird stuff happening. It's a small detail but it makes the movies feel a little more natural, as do the moments of humor that are kind of a signature of the *Paranormal* franchise (especially the earlier movies). Here, it feels like we're watching a much more conventional horror movie with the "video" aspect being just an indifferently applied attempt to make the movie feel a little more of the moment.

Devil's Due feels like an unappealing meal made from half-warmed leftovers of better, more chill-inducing horror films. **D+**

Rated R for language and some bloody pictures. Directed by Matt Bettinelli-Olpin and Tyler Gillett and written by Lindsay Devlin, Devil's Due is an hour and 29 minutes long and is distributed by 20th Century Fox. 🍌



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90 Pleasant Valley St., Methuen, Mass., 978-738-8942

O'Neil Cinema 12
Apple Tree Mall, Londonderry, 434-8633
Regal Concord
282 Loudon Road, Concord, 226-3800
Regal Hooksett 8
100 Technology Drive, Hooksett
Showcase Cinemas Lowell
32 Reiss Ave., Lowell, Mass., 978-551-0055

MOVIES OUTSIDE THE CINEPLEX

RED RIVER THEATRES

11 S. Main St., Concord, redriver-theatres.org, 224-4600

• **Nebraska** (R, 2013) Thurs., Jan. 23, at 7:45 p.m.; Fri., Jan. 24, at 3:25 & 5:55 p.m.; Sat., Jan. 25, at 3:25 & 5:55 p.m.; Sun., Jan. 26, at 3:25 & 5:55 p.m.; Mon., Jan. 27, at 2:05 & 5:25 p.m.; Tues., Jan. 28, at 2:05 & 5:25 p.m.; Wed., Jan. 29, at 2:05 & 5:25 p.m.; & Thurs., Jan. 30, at 2:05 p.m.
• **Philomena** (PG-13, 2013) Thurs., Jan. 23, at 2:05 & 5:25 p.m.; Fri., Jan. 24, at 1, 3:20, 6 & 8:20 p.m.; Sat., Jan. 25, at 1, 3:20, 6 & 8:20 p.m.; Sun., Jan. 26, at 1, 3:20, 6 p.m.; Mon., Jan. 27, at 2, 5:30 & 7:45 p.m.; Tues., Jan. 28, at 2, 5:30 & 7:45 p.m.; Wed., Jan. 29, at 2, 5:30 & 7:45 p.m.; & Thurs., Jan. 30, at 2, 5:30 & 7:45 p.m.
• **Inside Llewyn Davis** (R, 2013) Thurs., Jan. 23, at 2, 5:30 & 7 p.m.; Fri., Jan. 24, at 1:05 & 8:25 p.m.; Sat., Jan. 25, at 1:05 & 8:25 p.m.; Sun., Jan. 26, at 1:05 p.m.; Mon., Jan. 27, at 8 p.m.; Tues., Jan. 28, at 8 p.m.; & Wed., Jan. 29, at 8 p.m.
• **The Broken Circle Breakdown** (NR, 2013) Thurs., Jan. 23, at 2:10 p.m.
• **Pulp Fiction** (R, 1994) on Thurs., Jan. 23, at 6 p.m.
• **Blue Jasmine** (PG-13, 2013) on Fri., Jan. 24, at 1:30 p.m., 3:45 p.m., 6:10 & 8:15 p.m.; Sat., Jan. 25, at 1:30, 3:45, 6:10 & 8:15 p.m.; Sun., Jan. 26, at 1:30 & 6:10 p.m.; Mon., Jan. 27, at 5:35 & 7:30 p.m.; Tues., Jan. 28, at 2:10, 5:35 & 7:30 p.m.; Wed., Jan. 29, at 2:10, 5:35 & 7:30 p.m.; & Thurs., Jan. 30, at 2:10, 5:35 & 7:30 p.m.
• **Phantom Lady** (NR, 1944) on Sun., Jan. 26, at 4 p.m.
• **Sparrows** (NR, 1926) on Thurs., Jan. 30, at 7 p.m.
• **Mary Pickford: Queen of the Movies** film event on Thurs., Jan. 30, at 7 p.m.

WILTON TOWN HALL
40 Main St. in Wilton, 654-3456, wiltontownhalltheatre.com
• **Nebraska** (R, 2013) Thurs., Jan. 23, at 7:30 p.m., through Thurs., Jan. 30, at 7:30 p.m. Additional screening on Sun., Jan. 26, at 2 p.m.
• **Inside Llewyn Davis** (R, 2013) Fri., Jan. 24, through Thurs., Jan. 30, at 7:30 p.m. Additional screen-

ings on Sun., Jan. 26, at 2 & 4:30 p.m.

• **Kitty Foyle** (1940) on Sat., Jan. 25, at 4:30 p.m.
• **Tess of the Storm Country?** (1922) on Sun., Jan. 26, at 4:30 p.m. Silent film with accompaniment by Jeff Rapsis.

CAPITOL CENTER FOR THE ARTS

44 S. Main St., Concord, 225-1111, ccanh.com
• **Coriolanus** National Theatre Live on Mon., Feb. 3, at 6 p.m.
• **Rusalka** Met Live in HD on Sat., Feb. 8, at 12:55 p.m.
• **Great Expectations** rebroadcast of live event on London's West End on Sat., Feb. 8, at 7 p.m.

MANCHESTER CITY LIBRARY

405 Pine St., Manchester, 624-6550, manchester.lib.nh.us
• **Now You See Me** (PG-13, 2013) on Wed., Jan. 29, at 1 p.m.
• **Bless Me Ultima** (PG-13, 2013) on Wed., Feb. 5, at 1 p.m.
• **Dragon Heart** (PG-13) on Wed., Feb. 12, at 1 p.m.
• **Dead Poets Society** (PG, 1989) on Wed., Feb. 19, at 1 p.m.
• **The Black Stallion** (G, 1979) on Wed., Feb. 26, at 1 p.m.

WEST BRANCH COMMUNITY LIBRARY

76 N. Main St., Manchester, 624-6560, manchester.lib.nh.us
• **Mary Poppins** (G, 1964) on Fri., Jan. 24, at 3 p.m.
• **Cloudy With a Chance of Meatballs 2** (PG, 2013) on Fri., Jan. 31, at 3 p.m.
• **Free Birds** (G, 2013) on Fri., Feb. 7, at 3 p.m.
• **Sound of Music: Live With Carrie Underwood** (G, 2013) on Fri., Feb. 14, at 3 p.m.

BEDFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY

3 Meetinghouse Road, Bedford, 472-3023, bedfordonline.com, free movie at 2 p.m. on the third Sunday of the month, presented through Parks & Recreation
• **To Please a Lady** (1950) on Sun., Feb. 16, at 2 p.m.
• **Katch** (1971) on Sun., March 16, at 2 p.m.

CONCORD PUBLIC LIBRARY

45 Green St., Concord, 230-3682, onconcord.com/library
• **Groundhog Day** (PG, 1993) on Thurs., Feb. 20, at 6:30 p.m.
• **Cloudy With a Chance of Meatballs** (PG, 2009) on Tues., Feb. 25, at 2:30 p.m.
• **Man of Steel** (PG-13, 2013) on Thurs., March 20, at 6:30 p.m.

HOOKSETT PUBLIC LIBRARY

31 Mount Saint Mary's Way, Hooksett, 485-6092, hooksettlibrary.org, Free films and popcorn.
• **Captain Phillips** (PG-13, 2013) on Thurs., Feb. 6, at 2 p.m. and 6 p.m.

CHUNKY'S CINEMA

151 Coliseum Ave., Nashua, 880-8055
• **Local Movie Month** *The Perfect Storm* (PG-13, 2000) is on Thurs., Jan. 23, at 7:30 p.m.; and *What About Bob?* (PG, 1991) is on Thurs., Jan. 30, at 7:30 p.m.

NASHUA PUBLIC LIBRARY

NPL Theater, 2 Court St., Nashua, 589-4600, nashualibrary.org. Call 589-4646 for a movie schedule. Seating is limited. Food and drink are not permitted. Cinema Cabaret screens adult films on Tuesdays at 7 p.m. and the family film series screens on Saturdays at 2 p.m. The two series run from October to May.
• **Hercules** (G, 1997) on Sat., Jan. 25, at 2 p.m.
• **Sex, Lies and Videotapes** (R, 1989) on Sat., Jan. 25, at 3:45 p.m. (Discussion Mon., Jan. 27, at 7 p.m., part of discussion group for 20-somethings.)
• **Family Film** on Sat., Feb. 1, at 2 p.m.; Sat., Feb. 8, at 2 p.m.

TUCKER FREE LIBRARY

31 Western Ave., Henniker, 428-3471
• **Everyday Moments, Caught in Time** TED Talk with Billy Collins on Thurs., Jan. 23, at 11 a.m.

RODGERS MEMORIAL LIBRARY

194 Derry Road, Route 102, Hudson, rodgerslibrary.org, 886-6030
• **Teen Movie Night** on Mon., Jan. 27, at 6 p.m.

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By Michael Witthaus
mwitthaus@hippopress.com

• **Grass family:** With classical training and bluegrass musical chops, the **DePue Brothers Band** brings a lot of talent to the stage. The touring unit stopping by Nashua features siblings Wallace and Jason DePue, and the group's new album, *Weapons of Grass Construction*, melds symphonic, acoustic roots and rock elements seamlessly. See DePue Brothers Band on Thursday, Jan. 23, at 8 p.m. at Elm Street Middle School, 117 Elm St., Nashua. Tickets are \$25 (\$10/students) at nashuacommunityconcerts.org.

• **Rude dudes:** Don't go to see **Otto & George** expecting a puppet show. Otto Petersen is no ordinary ventriloquist, and his foul-mouthed foil George Dudley is not a typical dummy. Otto plays the flustered straight man, and George unleashes enough profanity-laced invective to make a sailor blush. Anyone expecting cute repartee better watch out. See Otto & George on Friday, Jan. 24, at 8 p.m. at Headliners, 700 Elm St. (Radisson Hotel), Manchester. Tickets are \$20 at headlinerscomedyclub.com.

• **Song man:** Singer-songwriter **Paul Hubert** performs in Concord, a set that promises to be mostly originals. The well-rounded guitarist is a mainstay at summer farmers markets with The Buskers, and the upcoming mud season concert with his Baker Valley Band promises to be a German-themed affair. But polka can wait on a show that's served with Mexican food. See Paul Hubert on Saturday, Jan. 11, at 8 p.m. at 6:30 p.m. at Hermanos Cocina Mexicana, 11 Hills Ave., Concord; more at hermanosmexican.com.

• **Band show:** Long a troubadour, Maine songwriter **Elijah Ocean** recently formed a band, made a record and hit the road. If the lead single is an indication, it's worth getting excited over. "Ride It Out" is a gorgeous, upbeat ballad about surviving and thriving, punctuated with lush harmonies and lovely musical interplay. See Elijah Ocean and Jordan Renzi on Monday, Jan. 27, at 9 p.m. at The Red Door Lounge, 107 State St., Portsmouth. \$10/door; more at reddoorportsmouth.com.

• **Rock hop:** Martha's Vineyard-based quartet **Dukes County Love Affair** offers an eclectic mix of electronic-infused rock, blues, gypsy folk and urban dance beats — what they like to call "rock hop." They've performed alongside big acts like G. Love, Deer Tick, Willy Mason, Ben Taylor and St. Lucia. Their new EP, *High Sky*, came out earlier this month. See Dukes County Love Affair on Wednesday, Jan. 29, at 8 p.m. at Thirsty Moose, 21 Congress St., Portsmouth. See dcla.com.

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NITE Traveling band

Chamomile & Whiskey continue the journey

By Michael Witthaus
mwitthaus@hippopress.com

Bluegrass chops and punk ethos inform the raucous sound of Chamomile and Whiskey, appearing Thursday, Jan. 23, at Portsmouth's Press Room. The five-piece acoustic band has generated a lot of buzz since forming two years ago in Charlottesville, Va., mainly on the strength of high-energy live shows. They're considered one of the hottest up and coming bands in a town teeming with great music.

2013's *Wandering Boots*, the group's first full-length album, also ably displays their studio talents. There's the rock and reel "Dirty Sea" — penned by banjo player and Galway, Ireland, native Ryan Lavin, it owes equal debts to the Pogues and Steve Earle. Fittingly, the title song is a runaway train, one of six selections written by guitarist and vocalist Koda Kerl.

With elements of gypsy folk, mountain twang and high lonesome country, this brew of heady Americana is as eclectic as the scene that spawned them.

"The city is packed with music, and it seems like everyone you talk to is in a band," Kerl said in a recent phone interview. He cites local heroes the Hackensaw Boys as a key influence — "one of the first bands playing old-time music with kind of a punk rock attitude, really rowdy shows" — and mentions Dave Matthews, who helped put Charlottesville on the map in the early 1990s.

Chamomile and Whiskey was born on the road. Kerl had been playing in a rock band and doing a side project with fiddle player Marie Borgman, also his girlfriend.

Chamomile and Whiskey

When: Thursday, Jan. 23, at 8 p.m.

Where: The Press Room, 77 Daniel St., Portsmouth

More: chamomileandwhiskey.com



Chamomile & Whiskey. Courtesy photo.

They performed as a duo on a tour through Canada and the Pacific Northwest a couple of years ago but came away feeling like they needed more.

"We liked the style we were doing, but we wanted a much bigger sound," Kerl said.

He grew up in a musical family; his father was a songwriter who introduced him to John Prine, Townes Van Zandt and Bob Dylan. But Kerl was also a big fan of The Band, and anxious to flesh things out.

"Get some drums involved and more ... we enjoy playing the type of shows where people are dancing."

Rounded out by drummer Brenning Greenfield and upright bass player Tim Deibler, the band came together quickly. Soon they were signed to a local label and making an EP.

"We did it with a local producer, recorded it live in an old barn," said Kerl. "That was a pretty cool experience."

Two years on, they've played hundreds of shows all over the country. In addition to their first ever New Hampshire show, the

current tour takes them to D.C., New York City, Vermont, Maine and Philadelphia, Kerl's hometown. They're winning fans far and wide, as evidenced by a pair of shows at a Vermont ski resort a while back.

"By the time we were done with our afternoon show, the venue was asking to pay a little more so we could play another set that night," said Kerl. "It clicked so well. The crowd was awesome, and we were blown away by how well we were received."

The steady stream of dates marks a turning point.

"Last year, we would do one weekend here and there," said Kerl. "This is a new phase for us where no one is working a day job anymore and we are hitting the road full time."

Speaking to a reporter in his hometown last spring, banjo player Lavin echoed Kerl.

"I didn't have a proper show until I moved to America and had one with these lads," he said. "Entertaining people, first and foremost, is our goal. And this is what I'm doing for the rest of my life. I have no plan B." 🍷

Derry hilarity

Halligan comedy night mixes stars and strivers

By Michael Witthaus
mwitthaus@hippopress.com

Just as necessity is the mother of invention, the genesis of many a weekly standup show is a comic looking to sharpen his act. It's what led Sean Tumblety to start one in Derry.

"I did it for pretty selfish reasons — I needed to get on stage," the tall, dapper comic explained on a recent Thursday night as a crowd filed in. "My biggest strength is writing and sticking to my script, and I thought it would be great to host a show and have to work off the cuff, to work that muscle that's probably my weakest."

Tumblety conceived of something sim-

ilar to Comedy Studio, a Cambridge club he frequented.

"It was a booked show, but if you went three times and watched, the host would put you on. I thought that was really cool," he said.

Held upstairs at the Halligan, each show includes a headliner, a feature, and six comics in various stages of development.



Sean Tumblety. Courtesy photo.

Halligan Tavern Comedy Night

When: Thursdays at 8 p.m.

Where: Halligan Tavern, 32 West Broadway, Derry

Full schedule: facebook.com/TheHalliganTavernComedyNight

Crucially, it's a semi-open mike, with slots filled months in advance.

"If I'm gonna give a shot to one or two people who've never done it before, I'll make sure the rest of the show is booked properly," Tumblety said. "I'll mix Boston in but always have local comics for the crowd. I want to cater to the New Hampshire audience."

Upon its launch in September 2012, the weekly event clicked immediately.

"It was insane; almost every single night you couldn't get in. There's a little bit of magic in this room."

Tumblety said he helped set a tone of respect for the performers early on by showing the door to a few loudmouths.

"I made it clear that if people want to chat there's a nice bar downstairs; otherwise comics are working hard to make you laugh," he said.

A good thing got better after fellow comic Nick Lavalley took over Wednesday night comedy at Manchester's Shaskeen Pub.

"Nick said, 'I'm going to mirror the showcase/feature thing you're doing, and we're going to build two rooms.' As soon as that started happening, we had success. We decided to ask national performers to come here."

Soon, *Comedy Central* and *Tonight Show* talent had a one-two punch line in

the Granite State, and when big names like Myq Kaplan or Dan Soder appeared, fans arrived an hour or two early for wristbands guaranteeing admission.

"It was very organic the way it grew, but we knew what we wanted," said Tumblety. "We wanted to create a place in New Hampshire that's just as prestigious as Comedy Studio."

With assistance from Manchester's Dave Carter, Tumblety and Lavalley offer an enticing pitch to prospective talent.

"We work together to get big-name comics two nights, and it's more attractive," said Tumblety. "They use it as an opportunity to nail down their set before the weekend. They're coming to play the Wilbur in Boston, Comedy Connection in Rhode Island, places like that. It's a nice couple of rooms that are always packed for them to practice."

There's never a cover; the comedians are paid with a percentage of the bar receipts. Everybody's happy, especially the owners.

"The Halligan is 100 percent behind it, because they have this beautiful upstairs room that's only used for functions," said Tumblety. "It's a nice, small romantic room, and it fills up quick."

As evidenced by new comedy nights popping up from the Seacoast to the Lakes Region and beyond, there's a definite hunger for this kind of entertainment.

"We see it every week," said Tumblety. "The thing is, if you're going to go to a movie, which could be junk anyway, you're going to spend 30 bucks. You can go to a show like this, spend the same amount, and get something totally different every time — live. It's a beautiful thing."

pass a vivid blend of bluegrass, classical, and rock genres.

• **COMEDY NIGHT** at Old Salt (490 Lafayette Road, Hampton 964-3170) on Fri., Jan. 24, at 8 p.m. \$25/Advance, \$30/door North Hampton Recreation Department Comedy Night

featuring Dave Rattigan, Jesse Bickford, Lamont Price and P.J. Thibodeau.

• **BLUEGRASS JAM SESSION** at Garrison Players Arts Center (Route 4, Rollinsford 750-4278) on Fri., Jan. 24, at 8 p.m. Musicians and Fans: Come

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Nightlife
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• **DEPUE BROTHERS BAND** at Elm Street Middle School (117 Elm St., Nashua 318-1792) on Thurs., Jan. 23, at 8 p.m. \$28/\$11.50 Students - These four violinist brothers encom-

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STRUM FUN



The Southern New Hampshire Ukulele Group holds its Groundhog Day Luau on Saturday Feb. 1 from 5:30 to 10 p.m. at the Best Western/Wynwood Suites. The annual fundraiser is a celebration of the ukulele with performances by Tim Mann, Steve Roy, Andrea Szirbik, Ben Chung, and MB Padfield. Well-known ukulele groups from around the region will also perform, and there's an evening ending open jam session. \$30 tickets include music and a luau appetizer buffet. 580 U.S. 1 Bypass, Portsmouth; 489-3690.

listen or jam with Mark Wiley and his Bluegrass Friends. Every month at GPAC.

• **JAZZ IN JANUARY** at Concord Community Music School (23 Wall St., Concord 228-1196) on Fri., Jan. 24 at 7 & 9 p.m. \$20/adults, \$15/students & seniors - Musicians of Wall Street Jazz Ensemble perform Latin, swing and band originals-with food courtesy of Hermanos Cocina Mexicana.

• **APPLE HILL STRING QUARTET** at St. Paul's School (325 Pleasant St., Concord 229-4600) on Fri., Jan. 24 at 8 p.m. The program will include: Joseph Haydn: "Rider" Quartet Giuseppe Verdi: String Quartet in E minor Meredith Monk: Stringsongs

• **POETRY OPEN MIC** at Imago Dei (123 Hanover St., Manchester) on Sat., Jan. 25 at 7 p.m. Donation. Share stories, poems, and spoken words. Or just come to listen.

• **GREEK MUSIC AND BELLY DANCING** at Cafe Nostimo (72 Mirona Road, Portsmouth 436-3100) on Sat., Jan. 25 at 8 p.m. Live Greek Music with Chuck Kouostas and Ross Richardson. Belly Dancing performance at 9pm by Zabel. Delicious Greek cuisine, Greek music and dancing. Reservations accepted for groups of 6 or more.

• **SUSIE BURKE & DAVID SURETTE** at Garrison Players Arts Center (Route 4, Rollinsford 750-4278) on Sat., Jan. 25 at 8 p.m. \$15 & \$12/under 18 - Rollinsford Ramble - Susie Burke and David Surette have made a name for themselves as one of the finest acts on the lively New England folk scene.

• **BALLADEER JOHN PERRAULT** at Red and Shorty's (4 Paul Street, Dover 767-3305) on Sat., Jan. 25 at 8 p.m. \$12 - traditional and original ballads with former Portsmouth Poet Laureate, John Perrault. John is celebrating the release of his new CD Rock and Root—a compilation of 18 of his cross-grained songs.

• **GHOST DINNER BAND &**

MOXLEY UNION at Mole Hill Theatre (89 Gilsum Mine Road, East Alstead 352-2585) on Sat., Jan. 25 at 8 p.m. \$10 - Ghost Dinner Band is a whole century of rock music thrown at you in an eclectic time warp played with a surprising integrity, and feel for what you crave. Moxley Union is a bluesy, classic-rock band out of New England.

• **JOHN KORDALEWSKI TRIO** at Peterborough Historical Society (19 Grove St., Peterborough 924-3235) on Sun., Jan. 26 at 3 p.m. \$15 - Concert of the Great Jazz Pianist-Composers beginning with the masters of the bebop era and progressing through modernists such as McCoy Tyner, Kenny Barron, and Mulgrew Miller.

• **YALE WHIFFENPOOFS** at Kingswood Arts Center (21 McManus Road, Wolfeboro 569-7710) on Sun., Jan. 26 at 2 p.m. \$20 - The world's oldest and best-known collegiate a cappella group perform everything from the traditional Yale fight song to jazz standards to Motown and original arrangements.

• **TRADITIONAL JAZZ SERIES** at UNH, Paul Creative Arts Center (30 Academic Way, Durham 862-2919) on Mon., Jan. 27 at 8 p.m. \$8 - Alto sax pleyer Eric Alexander is joined by Harold Mabern. one of jazz's most enduring and dazzlingly skilled pianists.

• **BLIND OWL BAND** at Mole Hill Theatre (89 Gilsum Mine Road, East Alstead 352-2585) on Thu., Jan. 30 at 8 p.m. \$10 - The Blind Owl Band says "Although we look like a bluegrass band we are not. We use the instruments of our ancestors, but play music of our time, influenced by all that has happened in the musical world over the past 25 years.

• **CAFÉ 58 CD RELEASE PARTY** at Claremont Opera House (Opera House Square, Claremont 542-4433) on Sat., Feb. 1 at 7 p.m. \$10 - Complimentary coffee, tea and paties at this on stage event celebrat-

ing new CD from local singer/songwriter and piano player John Lovejoy

• **COUNTRY JAMBOREE** at Claremont Opera House (Opera House Square, Claremont 542-4433) on Sat., Feb. 1 at 8 p.m. The music of Hank Williams, Patsy Cline, Johnny Cash, Tammy Wynette, Willie Nelson, Loretta Lynn and more - like spending an evening at The Grand Ole Opry.

• **MUSIC FEATURE W/ OPEN MIC** at Imago Dei (123 Hanover St., Manchester) on Sat., Feb. 1 at 7 p.m. Features include Bluestocking (Juliana Cable), Vomit Girls, Rachel Vogelzan, Sam Robbins, Raven Skye McGill & Emma Bovill preceded by open mic (Music, Poems, Stories, Anything your Little Heart Desires)

• **UKULELE GROUNDHOG DAY SHOW** at Best Western/Wynwood Suites (Portsmouth Circle, Portsmouth 489-3690) on Sat., Feb. 1 at 8 p.m. \$30 - celebration of the ukulele with Tim Mann, Steve Roy, Andrea Szirbik, Ben Chung, and MB Padfield. Well-known ukulele groups from around the region will also perform. Bring your uke and join other players in an evening ending jam session.

• **JATOBA** at Mole Hill Theatre (89 Gilsum Mine Road, East Alstead 352-2585) on Sat., Feb. 1 at 8 p.m. \$10 - Jatoba is an acoustic "groove grass" band with a distinct style and unique sound. Their music consists of quick, high-energy bluegrass tempos, thumping rockabilly bass lines, and soaring three-part vocal harmonies, as well as punchy rhythmic improvisation, effects-driven guitar solos, beat-boxing, and even the occasional sitar interlude.

• **PAN LOCO STEEL BAND** at Village Players Theater (51 Glendon St., Wolfeboro 569-2151) on Sun., Feb. 2 at 2 p.m. \$20 - Calypso, reggae and island music from the Caribbean. Hailing from the USA and the islands of St. Thomas and Trinidad, and trained at Berklee and UNH.

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Across

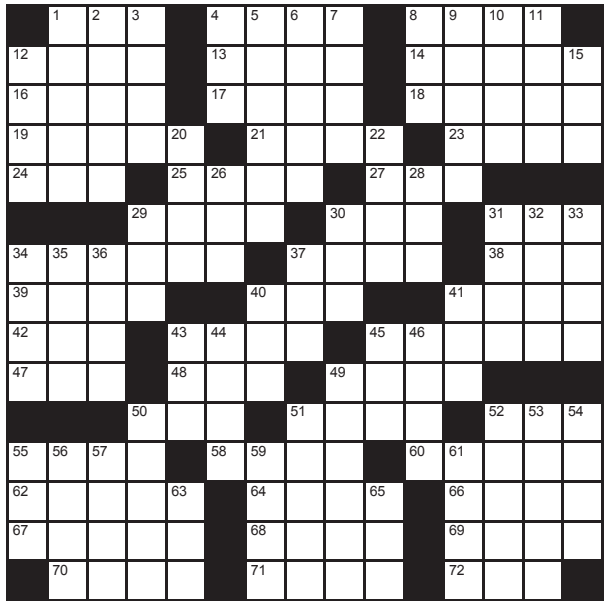
- 1. Bikini Kill ‘Jet ___’
- 4. The Who ‘Tommy’ song ‘It’s ___!’ (1,3)
- 8. Just The Two ___ (2,2)
- 12. Groupies, to the ‘Little Red Rooster’
- 13. ‘Pow 2011’ UK rapper
- 14. Dressing rooms?
- 16. Grant Lee Buffalo ‘Even The ___’
- 17. ‘18 Days’ band Saving ___
- 18. Cranberries ‘No Need To ___’
- 19. The Band concert film The Last ___
- 21. Sean Lennon’s mom
- 23. ‘99 Luftballons’ singer
- 24. Black Flag label
- 25. Clueless-inspired Sara Evans song? (2,2)
- 27. Rick Derringer ‘Rock And Roll Hoochie ___’
- 29. Norwegian lowlife black metal band?
- 30. Billy Joel ‘___ To Extremes’ (1,2)
- 31. Ace Frehley drummer Anton
- 34. REM ‘___ End Of The World As We Know It’ (3,3)

- 37. Miami Sound Machine ‘Falling In Love’ song (hyph)
- 38. Legal David Bowie song?
- 39. UK indie band ___ & The Whale
- 40. Band w/famous animated 80s vid
- 41. Gavin Rossdale ‘Love Remains The ___’
- 42. Doyle of namesake grunge band
- 43. Tourniquet ‘Melting The Golden ___’
- 45. ‘Build A Fire’ ___ ‘N’ Cryin’
- 47. Bobbie Gentry ‘___ To Billy Joe’
- 48. Guns And Roses frontman
- 49. Nirvana ‘Smells Like ___ Spirit’
- 50. ‘To The Teeth’ DiFranco
- 51. ‘King Of Anything’ Bareilles
- 52. ‘In Too Deep’ ___ 41
- 55. ‘Deja Vu’ icons (abbr)
- 58. System Of A Down ‘Toxicity’ hit ‘Chop ___’
- 60. Record label for a safari?
- 62. What Kelly wears on her feet
- 64. Selena Gomez ‘___ Me Something I Don’t Know’

- 66. Tim McGraw ‘Let ___’ (2,2)
- 67. Charting soundtrack ‘Hunchback Of ___ Dame’
- 68. ‘Midwinter Graces’ Tori
- 69. The Wanderer
- 70. ‘A Prisoner Of The ___’ Prefab Sprout
- 71. Crowd running to the stage
- 72. Linkin Park ‘Waiting For The ___’

Down

- 1. Pat Benatar ‘___ A Weapon’ (3,2)
- 2. Boys II Men did it ‘On Bended Knee’
- 3. Smiths ‘That Joke ___ Funny Anymore’
- 4. Comes before stage name (abbr)
- 5. Prince ‘___ A Star’ (4,2)
- 6. James Blunt ‘___ The Brightest Stars’ (3,2)
- 7. Might take it out of egg, pre-tour
- 8. Depeche Mode ‘Barrel ___ Gun’ (2,1)
- 9. Korn ‘___ One’ (3,2)
- 10. Porno For Pyros ‘Good God’s ___’
- 11. What incredible band will do
- 12. Third Eye Blind ‘___ It Going To Be’
- 15. Neutral Milk Hotel ‘In The Aeroplane Over The ___’
- 20. De la Rocha of Rage Against The Machine
- 22. ‘A Million Ways’ band (2,2)
- 26. Buddy Holly’s ‘Peggy’
- 28. Hall & Oates ‘___ Yeah’
- 29. All-female ‘Freaks Of Nature’ band Drain ___
- 30. Perfect Circle guitarist James
- 31. Rapper Flavor ___
- 32. Queensryche song about explaining yourself? (1,2,1)
- 33. ‘The Sweet Escape’ Stefani
- 34. Phil Collins ‘Dance ___ The Light’
- 35. ___ The Wet Sprocket
- 36. ‘Stronger Than Pride’ softrock singer
- 37. Portuguese rockers that don’t watch VHF?
- 40. Carly Simon ‘___ I Want Is You’
- 41. Gene Simmons ‘I’m living in ___, at the Holiday Inn’
- 43. Babyface ‘When ___ I See You’
- 44. What McCartney is ‘Spinning On’
- 45. After The Fire’s Falco cover ‘___ Kommissar’
- 46. Hootie And The Blowfish ‘Cracked ___ View’
- 49. John or Andy of Duran Duran
- 50. Kevin of Soft Machine
- 51. Beatles ‘You Won’t ___’ (3,2)
- 52. BB King ‘I’m Gonna ___ ‘Til You Give In’ (3,2)
- 53. Stabbing Westward album that strips of divinity?
- 54. Tom Petty ‘Full ___ Fever’
- 55. Graham Nash band (abbr)
- 56. Pet ___ Boys
- 57. Crocodiles ‘I’m ___ Young Man Any-more’ (3,1)
- 59. Where Donny and Marie hail from
- 61. “Warm, safe place where as a child I’d ___”
- 63. Type of list on stage
- 65. Woodstock gear?



1/16



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Bedford Bedford Village Inn 2 Olde Bedford Way 472-2001 Copper Door 15 Leavy Drive 488-2677 Shorty's 206 Route 101 488-5706 Starbucks 220 S. River Rd 263-0061	Concord Barley House 132 N. Main, 228-6363 Granite Restaurant & Bar 96 Pleasant St. 227-9000 Hermanos 11 Hills Ave. 224-5669 Makris 354 Sheep Davis Rd 225-7665 Penuche's Ale House 6 Pleasant St. 228-9833 Pit Road Lounge 388 Loudon Rd 226-0533 Red Blazer 72 Manchester St. 224-4101 Tandy's Top Shelf 1 Eagle Square 856-7614 True Brew Barista 3 Bicentennial Square 225-2776	Dover 11th Frame Bar 887 B Central Ave. 742-9632 Asia 42 Third Street 742-9816 Barley Pub 328 Central Ave. 742-4226 Cara Irish Pub 11 Fourth St. 343-4390 Cartelli's 446 Central Ave. 750-4002 Dover Brick House 2 Orchard St. 749-3838 Fury's Publick House 1 Washington St 617-3633 Jimmy's Sports Bar 15 Mechanic St. 740-4477 Kelley's Row 421 Central Ave. 750-7081 Loft at Strafford Farms 58 Route 108 743-3045 RJ's 83 Washington St. Roger's Pizza 869 Central Ave. 742-9870 Sonny's Tavern 328 Central Ave 343-4332 Top of the Chop 1 Orchard St. 740-0006	Gilford Ellacoya Barn & Grille 2667 Lakeshore Rd 293-8700 Patrick's 18 Weirs Rd. 293-0841	Hollis Alpine Grove 19 S. Depot Road 882-9051	Hooksett Asian Breeze 1328 Hooksett Rd 621-9298 New England's Tap House Grille 1292 Hooksett Rd. 782-5137 Pizza Man River Road	Hudson AJ's Sports Bar & Grill 11 Tracy Lane 718-1102 JD Chaser's 2B Burnham Rd 886-0792 Nan King Restaurant & Lounge 222 Central St. 882-1911 SoHo 49 Lowell Rd. 889-6889	Kingston Bucco's Tavern 143 Main St. 642-4999 Kingston 1686 House Tavern 127 Main St. 642-3637	Deerfield Lazy Lion Café 4 North Road 463-7374	Bow Chen Yang Li 520 South St. 228-8508	Boscawen Alan's 133 N. Main St. 753-6631	Epping Holy Grail 64 Main St. 679-9559	Boscawen Alan's: John Pratt in Lounge	Concord Hermanos: Tim Wildman & Jock Irvine Penuche's Ale House: Outer Stylie Tandy's: It Lies Within	Derry Coffee Factory 55 Crystal Ave 432-6006 Halligan Tavern 32 W. Broadway 965-3490	Epsom Circle 9 Ranch 39 Windymere 736-9656	Hampton Boardwalk Inn 139 Ocean Blvd. 929-7400 Breakers By the Sea 409 Ocean Blvd 926-7702 La Bec Rouge 73 Ocean Blvd 926-5050 Old Salt 409 Lafayette Rd 926-8322 Ron's Landing 379 Ocean Blvd 929-2122 Wally's Pub 144 Ashworth Ave. 926-6954 Whales Tales 169 Ocean Blvd 967-4771	Hanover Jesse's Tavern 224 Lebanon St 643-4111

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Auburn Pitts: Rockin' Ronnie Adams

Boscawen
Alan's: John Pratt in Lounge

Concord
Hermanos: Tim Wildman & Jock Irvine
Penuche's Ale House: Outer Stylie
Tandy's: It Lies Within

Dover
Sonny's: 80's Dance Party

Epping
Holy Grail: Karen Grenier

Laconia
Paradise Beach Club: DJ Gin-E
Pitman's Freight Room: Gerry Beaudoin Trio

Londonderry
Coach Stop: Joel Cage
Whippersnappers: Tammy Lynn & Myles High w/Sax Gordon

Manchester
Breezeway: DJ Pet - Impulse
Club 313: DJ Pez & DJ Carlos
Drynk: Co-Ed Thursdays with DJ Shawn Danjah White & Friends
Karma: DJ Midas w/Reed on drums

Midnight Rodeo: Line Danc-ing Lessons
Milly's: Lakes Region Big Band
N'awlins Grille: Live Jazz
Penuche's: Hornitz
Raxx: DJ Mike
Shaskeen: Ghost Dinner Band
Shorty's: Brandon Lepere
Strange Brew: Johnny & The Two-Timers

Merrimack
Homestead: Gary Lopez

Nashua
Amsterdam: DJ Sammy Smoove
Boston Billiard Club: DJ & Beach Night
Shorty's NAS: Kieran McNally

Newmarket
Stone Church: Live Irish Music w/ Jordan Tirrell-Wysocki

Portsmouth
British Beer Company: Drew Yount
Dolphin Striker: Live Music
Fat Belly's: DJ Flex
Gas Light: Apres Ski Party
Red Door: Local Heroes
Rudi's: Rob Gerry & Guest
Thirsty Moose: WXGR pres-ents Nappy Riddem featuring Mustafa Akbar

Weare
Boondocks: Brad Bosse & Brett Wilson

Concord
Granite Restaurant: CJ Poole & The Sophisticated Approach

Friday, Jan. 24
Bedford
Shorty's: Kieran McNally

Belmont
Lakes Region Casino: DJ Cliff Hounsell

Boscawen
Alan's: Max Sullivan

Brookline
Mad Hatter: Ajar Project

Concord
Makris: Jimmy & Marcelle
Red Blazer: Chafed

Tandy's: DJ Iceman Streetz (105.5 JYY)
True Brew: Wayne's Crossing

Dover
Asia: DJ Shadow Walker
Brick House: John Murphy
Fury's: People Skills
Kelley's Row: Pat Foley

Epping
Holy Grail: Matt Gelanis

Gilford
Patrick's: Chuck Kelsey

Goffstown
Village Trestle: Acoustic Jam w/ John Erlman

Merrimack Giorgio's Ristorante & Martini Bar 707 Milford Road 883-7333 Homestead 641 Daniel Webster Highway 429-2022 Jade Dragon 515 DW Highway 424-2280 Pacific Fusion 356 Daniel Webster Highway 424-6320	Nashua Garden 121 Main St. 886-7363 O'Shea's Tavern & Cigar Bar 449 Amherst St. 943-7089 Peddler's Daughter 48 Main St. 821-7535 Pine Street Eatery 136 Pine St. 886-3501 Riverwalk Coffee 35 Railroad Sq. 578-0200 Slade's Food & Spirits 4 W. Hollis St. 886-1344 Stella Blu 70 E. Pearl St. 578-5557 Shorty's 48 Gusabel Ave 882-4070 Unums 47 E. Pearl St. 821-6500 Villa Blanca 194 Main St. 598-0500 Wicked Twisted 38 East Hollis St. 577-1718	Pelham Shooters 116 Bridge St. 635-3577 Peterborough Harlow's Pub 3 School St. 924-6365 Waterhouse Restaurant & Bar 18 Depot St. 547-8323	Wet Bar at Pages 172 Hanover St. 436-0004 Raymond Famous Legends 4 Essex Dr. 895-4474 Salem Black Water Grill 43 Pelham Road 328-9013 Coffee Coffee 326 S. Broadway 912-5381 Jocelyn's Lounge 355 S. Broadway 870-0045 JT's Bar and Grill 326 S. Broadway 893-4055 Sayde's Restaurant 136 Cluff Crossing 890-1032 Varsity Club 67 Main St. 898-4344
Milford Chapanga's 168 Elm St. 249-5214 Clark's Tavern 40 Nashua St. 769-3119 Giorgio's Ristorante & Meze Bar 524 Nashua St. 673-3939 J's Tavern 63 Union Sq. 249-9222 Madison's Irish Pub 586 Nashua St. 672-2060 Pasta Loft 241 Union Sq. 672-2270 Tiebreakers at Hampshire Hills 50 Emerson Road 673-7123	New Boston Molly's Tavern 35 Mont Vernon Rd 487-2011 New London Flying Goose 40 Andover Road 526-6899 Newington Momma D's Casa di Pasta 347 Shattuck Way 431-6511 Newmarket KJ's Sports Bar N. Main St. 659-2329 Lamprey River Tavern 110 Main St. 659-3696 Stone Church 5 Granite St. 292-3546 Newport Salt Hill Pub Newport 58 Main St. 863-7774 Newton Hen House 85 South Main St 382-1705 North Hampton Locals 215 Lafayette Rd. 379-2729 Northwood Tough Tymes 221 Rochester Rd 942-5555	Portsmouth Blue Mermaid Island Grill The hill at Hanover and High streets 427-2583 British Beer Company 103 Hanover St. 501-0515 Daniel Street Tavern 111 Daniel St. 430-1011 Dolphin Striker 15 Bow St. 431-5222 Fat Belly's 2 Bow St. 610-4227 Hilton Garden Inn 100 High St. 431-1499 Jitto's Supersteak 3131 Lafayette Rd 436-9755 MoJo's BBQ Grill 95 Brewery Lane 436-6656 Oar House 50 Ceres St. 436-4025 Paddy's American Grill 27 International Dr. 430-9450 Portsmouth Gas Light 64 Market St. 431-9122 Portsmouth Pearl 45 Pearl St. 431-0148 Press Room 77 Daniel St. 431-5186 Red Door 107 State St. 373-6827 Red Hook Brewery 35 Corporate Dr. 430-8600 Ri Ra Irish Pub 22 Market Sq. 319-1680 Rudi's 20 High St. 430-7834 Rusty Hammer 49 Pleasant St. 436-9289 Thirsty Moose 21 Congress St. 427-8645	Seabrook Chop Shop Pub 920 Lafayette Rd 760-7704 Honey Pot Bar & Lounge 920 Lafayette Road 760-2013 Master McGrath's Route 107 474-6540 Prime Time Sports Grill 620 Lafayette Rd 760-7230 Sunapee One Mile West Tavern 6 Brook Road 863-7500 Sunapee Coffee House Rte. 11 & Lower Main St. 229-1859 Tilton Black Swan Inn 354 W. Main St. 286-4524 Weare Boondocks Tavern & Country Grille 487 South Stark Highway 529-7747 Windham Common Man 88 Range Road 898-0088 Jonathon's Lounge Park Place Lanes, Route 28 800-892-0568 The Castleton 92 Indian Rock Rd. 800-688-5644

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Hampton Wally's Pub: DJ Provo & Stereowolf	Kingston Bucco's: Kick The Ladder	Manchester 99: Justin Bethune Breezeway Pub: DJ Mckay NRG Dance	
Henniker Sled Pub: Almost Acoustic Friday	Laconia Pitman's Freight Room: The Love Dogs		



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NITE MUSIC THIS WEEK



ROOTS ROCKETS

A one-two Americana punch happens when Marshall Crenshaw and The Bottle Rockets perform on Sunday, Jan. 26 at Tupelo Music Hall. When The Bottle Rockets hit the scene in the mid '90s, the world wasn't quite sure what to do with them. With their punk-rock pedigrees and arena-rock energy, their tougher-than-Springsteen storytelling and their romantic hearts sewn bare on their denim sleeves, they confounded musical generalities as they laid waste to clubs across the Midwest and then, soon enough, the nation. Tickets \$30 at tupelohall.com. 2 Young Rd., Londonderry.

Jade Dragon: Without Paris
Manchegas: Big Country
Party
Murphy's Taproom:
Soundtrack to Monday
N'awlins Grille: Live Jazz
Penuche's: Richard James &
The Name Changers
Raxx: DJ Mike
Shaskeen: Sirsy
Strange Brew: Lisa Marie &
All Shook Up

Merrimack
Homestead: Steve Sibulkin

Merrimack
Jade Dragon: Monkeys With
Hammers

Milford
Clark's: Amanda Cote

J's Tavern: Freight Only
Nashua
99: Robert Charles
Amsterdam: Triana
Arena: Panache / DJ Danjah
Country Tavern: Kim Riley
Fody's: Chad LaMarsh
Haluwa: Bad Medicine
Killarney's: Double Shot
Stella Blu: Wooden Soul

New Boston
Molly's: John C/Ginger Beards
(Tavern)

Newmarket
Stone Church: Deadbeat

Peterborough
Harlow's: Ameranouche

Plaistow
Sad Cafe: Projekt Mill City,
DC Wonder, Animatronic The
Abolisher & Truancy

Portsmouth
Blue Mermaid: Jake Davis &
the Whiskey Stones
British Beer Company: Jim
Devlin Band
Dolphin Striker: Live Music
Fat Belly's: DJ PB Kidd
Gas Light: DJ Koko P/Keith
Henderson/Jimmy D
Hilton Garden: Great Bay
Sailor
Oar House: Bob Arens
Red Door: Lurob
Ri Ra: Live Music
Rudi's: Chris Klaxton & Guest
Rusty Hammer: Live Music
Thirsty Moose: Funktapuss

COMEDY THIS WEEK AND BEYOND

Thursday, Jan. 23
Derry

Halligan Tavern: Al
Park w/ John Baglio

Nashua
Fody's: Comedy on
Purpose - Alana Susko

Friday, Jan. 24
Atkinson
Atkinson Country
Club: Paul D'Angelo/
Paul Nardizzi/Matt
Barry

Concord
Capitol Center:
Upright Citizens Bri-
gade

Manchester
Headliners: Otto &
George (R Rated Ven-
troliquist)

Saturday, Jan. 25
Dover
Cara: Dick Doherty

Manchester
Headliners: Mike
Koutrobis w/ Shea
Spillane

Nashua
Arena: Comedy Night
Chunky's Pub: Duel-
ing Pianos

Portsmouth
Music Hall: Darwin's
Waiting Room
Portsmouth Gas
Light: Jeff Koen,
Dennis Fogg, Jesse
Bickford, Dan Gill &
EJ Murphy

Tuesday, Jan. 28
Dover
Cara: Tip Jar Comedy
w/ Jay Grove

Wednesday, Jan. 29
Manchester
Murphy's Taproom:
Laugh Free or Die
Open Mic
Shaskeen: Tim
McIntyre/Mikey Weil

Wednesday, Jan. 29
Seabrook
Honey Pot: Comedy
on Purpose - Alana
Susko

Thursday, Jan. 30
Derry
Halligan Tavern: Sam
Ike w/ Kyle Crawford

Saturday, Feb. 1
Manchester
Headliners: Louis
Ramey

Portsmouth
Music Hall: Capitol
Steps

Tuesday, Feb. 4
Dover
Cara: Tip Jar Comedy
w/ Jay Grove

Wednesday, Feb. 5
Manchester
Murphy's Taproom:
Laugh Free or Die
Open Mic
Shaskeen: Open Mic
Comedy

Seabrook
Honey Pot: Comedy
on Purpose - Alana
Susko

Thursday, Feb. 6
Derry
Halligan Tavern:
Kevin Cotter w/ Jeff
Young

Friday, Feb. 7
Concord
Capitol Center: Bill
Cosby

Saturday, Feb. 8
Dover
Cara: Johnny Pizzi

Londonderry
Tupelo: Rich Ceisler
and Will Noonan

Manchester
Headliners: Michael
Young Chow (Krazy
Korean)

Sunday, Feb. 9
Raymond
Veronica Laffs: Steve
Bjork/Kyle Crawford/
Matt Barry

Tuesday, Feb. 11
Dover
Cara: Tip Jar Comedy
w/ Jay Grove



LAUGH WORKOUT

Four top Boston comedians led by headliner P.J. Thibodeau entertain on Friday, Jan. 24 at 8 p.m. at the Old Salt. The North Hampton Comedy Night also features host Dave Rattigan, Lamont Price and Dover resident Jesse Bickford. It's a fundraiser for North Hampton's recreation department. Tickets are \$25 if purchased in advance at North Hampton Town Offices (100 Winnacunnet Road) or the town library (237A Atlantic Avenue). Tickets increase to \$30 the night of the show. 490 Lafayette Road, Hampton. 964-3170.

Salem
Black Water Grill: Rick Breton & Crew

Seabrook
Chop Shop: Red Sky Mary

Sunapee
Sunapee Coffee House: Doc Rogers

Saturday, Jan. 25
Belmont
Lakes Region Casino: Red Sky Mary

Boscawen
Alan's: Doug Thompson

Brookline
Mad Hatter: Stripped Down Guy (Blues)

Concord
Hermanos: Paul Hubert
Tandy's: DJ Iceman Streetz (105.5 JYY)
True Brew: Acoustic Alliance

Dover
Asia: DJ Shadow Walker
Brick House: Ben Cook
Kelley's Row: Gazpacho
Sonny's: Maganahan's Revival

Epping
Holy Grail: Sireteau

Epsom
Circle 9: Nicole Murphy

Gilford
Patrick's: Brooks Hubbard & Paul Costley

Goffstown
Village Trestle: Wilson & Clarke

Hampstead
Village Square: Local Live Music

Hampton
Wally's Pub: Wildside

Henniker
Sled Pub: October Sons

Hooksett
Asian Breeze: Live Music

Tap House Grille: Dan King

Kingston
Bucco's: Live Music

Laconia
Baja Beach Club: DJ
Pitman's Freight Room: Michael Vincent Band & Doubleshot

Londonderry
Coach Stop: Chris Donahue
Whippersnappers: Last Laugh

Manchester
British Beer Co.: Spiral Circus
City Sports Grille: Cold Comfort
Derryfield: Those Guys
Element: Dance Party with DJ Smallz
Fratello's: Dustin Ladale
Jade Dragon: DJ Jonny Friday
Jam Factory: September Solace, Drunken Uncle & The Floods
Manchvegas: Live Rock Music
Midnight Rodeo: The Dan Morgan Band
Milly's: A Simple Complex, Silent Season, Beyond The Fall, DJ Parker
Murphy's Taproom: Best Not Broken
N'awlins Grille: Live Jazz
Penuche's: DJ SP1 & Traveling Virus Fan Club
Raxx: DJ Mike
Shaskeen: Organ Beats, East is East
Strange Brew: Mr. Nick & The Dirty Tricks
Wild Rover: Drew Yount Duo

Merrimack
Homestead: Lachan MacLearn
Jade Dragon: Miner Band

Milford
Clark's: Brad Bosse

J's Tavern: Razzles

Nashua
Amsterdam: Jive Kats
Boston Billiard Club: DJ Anthem Throwback

Country Tavern: Johnny James
Fody's: The Clones Band
Haluwa: Bad Medicine
Killarney's: Country Night
Stella Blu: Rumble Fish

New Boston
Molly's: Pete Smith/Rock Spring (Tavern)

Newmarket
Stone Church: The Jaunttee w/Superfrog

Peterborough
Harlow's: Ol' Factory

Plaistow
Sad Cafe: Imagine the Escape, Dead of Wynter, My White Sky & 6 more

Portsmouth
Blue Mermaid: James Gilmore
British Beer Company: Chris White Band
Dolphin Striker: Live Music
Fat Belly's: DJ Provo
Gas Light: Comedy Show/DJ Koko P/Kevin Burt/tony Santesse
Hilton Garden: Pork Low Mainers
Oar House: Don Severance
Portsmouth Book & Bar: Living Room Special
Press Room: Bobby Keyes
Red Door: Juan Maclean
Ri Ra: Hello Newman
Rudi's: PJ Donahue Trio
Thirsty Moose: Sweatpants in Public

Salem
Black Water Grill: Live Music
Coffee Coffee: Just Harry Ensemble

Seabrook
Chop Shop: Inner Child

Weare
Boondocks: Live Band

Sunday, Jan. 26
Bedford
Copper Door: Cosmo Funday Live Music

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Cellar Notes

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COUNTRY HOME

Last year some of the state's finest rocked the house, and this year's Plymouth Country Showcase on Saturday, Jan. 25 at 7:30 p.m. at Flying Monkey looks even hotter. The Jimmy Lehoux Band returns, along with Dusty Gray Band and Jandee-Lee Porter. The show kicks off with Porter's powerhouse vocals, then Gray brings it up a notch with his high energy, rockin' show. Lehoux closes with an explosive live show and hits like "Twenty Toes In The Sand," "I Remember When" and "Jack and Charlie Daniels". Tickets are \$14. 39 S. Main St, Plymouth; 536-2551.

Concord

Hermanos: John Franzosa

Dover

Brick House: Live Jazz
Brunch with Jim Dozet Trio

Dover

Sonny's: Chris Klaxton

Londonderry

Whippersnappers: Joe McDonald

Manchester

Milly's: Mentol, RedKrow, Mars & 3 more hip-hop acts
Shaskeen: Rap night, Industry night
Social 24: Sunday Funday
Winter Jam Sessions
Strange Brew: Howard & John

Meredith

Giuseppe's: Open Stage with Lou Porrazzo

Peterborough

Waterhouse: Bob Arpin

Plaistow

Sad Cafe: Shattered Nitemares

Portsmouth

Dolphin Striker: Live Music
Fat Belly's: Joe Young
Red Door: Green Lion Crew
Rudi's: Jazz Brunch w/ Rob Gerry

Monday, Jan. 27

Concord

Hermanos: John Franzosa

Londonderry

Whippersnappers: Monday Muse - All Ages Jam w/Lisa Guyer

Manchester

Fratello's: Rob Wolfe
Milly's: DJ

Merrimack

Homestead: Charlie Christos

Newmarket

Stone Church: Sinful Blues - Open Blues Jam

Portsmouth

Dolphin Striker: Live Music
Fat Belly's: Amanda McCarthy
Red Door: Hush Hush Sweet Harlot
Ri Ra: Oran Mor

Tuesday, Jan. 28

Concord

Barley House: Irish Sessions
Hermanos: Dave Gerard

Dover

Cara: Open Bluegrass/ Americana
Fury's: Tim Theriault and Friends
Sonny's: Soggy Po' Boys

Londonderry

Whippersnappers: VJ Mark

Manchester

Fratello's Manchester: Jeff Mrozek
Milly's: Manchuka
Raxx: DJ Mike
Shaskeen: Tristan Omand
Strange Brew: Peter Parcek

Merrimack

Homestead: Paul Luff

Newmarket

Stone Church: Bluegrass Jam w/Dave Talmage

Portsmouth

Blue Mermaid: Honky Tonk Tuesdays

Dolphin Striker: Live Music

Press Room: Larry Garland
Jazz Jam

Wednesday, Jan. 29

Concord

Hermanos: Poor Howard

Dover

Sonny's: Clara Berry

Gilford

Patrick's: Corey Brackett

Hampton

Wally's Pub: 90's Dance party w/DJ Provo

Manchester

Fratello's: Drew Yount
Milly's: DJ
Strange Brew: David Rousseau

Merrimack

Homestead: Brian Gray

Milford

Clark's: Lisa Guyer
J's Tavern: Tom Rousseau

Nashua

Killarney's: Kieran McNally
Wicked Twisted: Wicked Twisted Blues Band Jam

Portsmouth

Dolphin Striker: Live Music
Fat Belly's: Brad Bosse
Red Door: Evaredy Ladies Night
Ri Ra: Live Music
Rudi's: Dmitri Solo
Thirsty Moose: Dukes County Love Affair

Weare

Boondocks: Blues Jam w/ Paul Spera, Junie Belanger & Mickey McGuire

GET THE CROWDS AT YOUR GIG

Want to get your show listed in the Music This Week? Let us know all about your upcoming show, comedy show, open mike night or multi-band event by sending all the information to music@hippopress.com. Send information by 9 a.m. on Friday to have the event considered for the next Thursday's paper.

NITE CONCERTS

Capitol Center for the Performing Arts 44 S. Main St., Concord, 225-1111, ccanh.com
The Colonial Theatre 95 Main St., Keene, 352-2033, thecolonial.org
Dana Humanities Center at Saint Anselm College 100 Saint Anselm Drive, Manchester, 641-7700, anselm.edu/dana
The Flying Monkey 39 S. Main St., Plymouth, 536-2551, flyingmonkeynh.com
Hampton Beach Casino Ballroom 169 Ocean Blvd., Hampton Beach, 929-4100, casino-ballroom.com
Leddy Center 38c Ladd's Lane, Epping, 679-2781, leddycenter.org
Lowell Boarding House Park 40 French St., Lowell, Mass.,

www.lowellsummermusic.org
Lowell Memorial Auditorium East Merrimack Street, Lowell, Mass., 978-454-2299, lowellauditorium.com
Meadowbrook U.S. Cellular Pavilion 72 Meadowbrook Lane, Gilford, 293-4700, meadowbrook.net
The Middle Arts & Entertainment Center 316 Central St., Franklin, 934-1901, themiddlenh.org
The Music Hall 28 Chestnut St., Portsmouth, 436-2400, the-musichall.org
The Old Meeting House, 1 New Boston Road, Frankestown
Palace Theatre, 80 Hanover St., Manchester, 668-5588, palacetheatre.org

Prescott Park Arts Festival 105 Marcy St., Portsmouth, www.prescottpark.org, 436-2848
Rochester Opera House 31 Wakefield St., Rochester, 335-1992, rochesteroperahouse.com
Stockbridge Theatre Pinkerton Academy, Route 28, Derry, 437-5210, stockbridgetheatre.com
Tupelo Music Hall 2 Young Road, Londonderry, 437-5100, tupelohall.com
Verizon Wireless Arena 555 Elm St., Manchester, 644-5000, www.verizonwirelessarena.com
Whittemore Center Arena, UNH 128 Main St., Durham, 862-4000, whitcenter.com

- **Sister Hazel** Thu., Jan. 23 at 8, Tupelo
- **Upright Citizens Brigade** Fri., Jan. 24 at 7, Cap Center
- **Sister Hazel Acoustic** Fri., Jan. 24 at 8, Tupelo
- **Paula Cole** Sat., Jan. 25 at 8, Tupelo
- **Darwin's Waiting Room** Sat., Jan. 25 at 8, Music Hall
- **Jimmy Lehoux, Dusty Gray Band, Jandee Lee Porter** Sat., Jan. 25 at 8, Flying Monkey
- **Marshall Crenshaw with The Bottle Rockets** Sun., Jan. 26 at 8, Tupelo
- **Michael Cooper (Mime/Visual Artist)** Sun., Jan. 26 at 1, Cap Center
- **NRBQ** Thu., Jan. 30 at 8, Tupelo
- **Bela Fleck and Brooklyn Rider** Thu., Jan. 30 at 7:30, Dana Center
- **Jason Aldean/Florida Georgia Line** Thu., Jan. 30 at 8, Verizon Wireless Arena
- **Bela Fleck with Brooklyn Rider** Fri., Jan. 31 at 8, Colonial Theatre
- **Darlingside** Fri., Jan. 31 at 8, Music Hall
- **Bruce In The USA (Springsteen Cover Band)** Fri., Jan. 31 at 7, Palace Theatre
- **Max Creek** Fri., Jan. 31 at 8, Tupelo
- **Peacheaters & Playin' Dead** Sat., Feb. 1 at 7:30, Flying Monkey
- **Melissa Ferrick** Sat., Feb. 1 at 8, Tupelo
- **Capitol Steps** Sat., Feb. 1 at 8, Music Hall
- **Colin Mochrie & Brad Sherman** Wed., Feb. 5 at 7, Palace Theatre
- **Open Mic Celebrity Series Featuring Mary Lou Lord** Thu., Feb. 6 at 8, Tupelo
- **Red Hot Chilli Pipers** Thu., Feb. 6 at 7:30, Cap Center
- **Guitar Passion w/ Sharon Isbin, Stanley Jordan & Romero Lubambo** Thu., Feb. 6 at 8, Music Hall
- **Bill Cosby** Fri., Feb. 7 at 8, Cap Center
- **James Montgomery Band** Fri., Feb. 7 at 8, Tupelo
- **Southside Johnny & the Asbury Jukes** Fri., Feb. 7 at 7, Palace Theatre
- **Motor Booty Affair** Fri., Feb. 7 at 8, Rochester Opera House
- **Lori McKenna** Sat., Feb. 8 at 8, Silver Center
- **Steve Blunt** Sat., Feb. 8 at 12, Tupelo
- **Comedy-Rich Ceisler/Marty Kelly** Sat., Feb. 8 at 8, Tupelo
- **Bill Cosby** Sun., Feb. 9 at 7:30, Cap Center
- **Doktor Kaboom** Sun., Feb. 9 at 7, Cap Center
- **Rain - Tribute to the Beatles** Tue., Feb. 11 at 7, Cap Center
- **Rhythm of the Dance - National Dance Theatre of Ireland** Fri., Feb. 14 at 7:30, Dana Center
- **Defending the Caveman** Fri., Feb. 14 at 7, Cap Center
- **Spirit of Johnny Cash** Fri., Feb. 14 at 8, Rochester Opera House
- **Rick Derringer** Fri., Feb. 14 at 8, Tupelo
- **Gaudy Baubles** Fri., Feb. 14 at 8, Music Hall
- **Mike McDonald Comedy Xtravaganza** Fri., Feb. 14 at 8, Music Hall
- **Juston McKinney** Sat., Feb. 15 at 8, Rochester Opera House
- **Brad Paisley/Chris Young** Sat., Feb. 15 at 8, Verizon Wireless Arena
- **Peter Asher** Thu., Feb. 20 at 7, Cap Center
- **Pearl & the Beard** Fri., Feb. 21 at 8, Cap Center
- **Figgs** Fri., Feb. 21 at 8, Music Hall
- **New England Music Awards** Sat., Feb. 22 at 7, Lowell Memorial Auditorium
- **Frank Santos (R-Rated Hypnotist)** Sat., Feb. 22 at 8, Rochester Opera House
- **Holly Williams (Sold Out)** Sat., Feb. 22 at 8, Music Hall
- **Dweezil Zappa** Thu., Feb. 27 at

- 7, Cap Center
- **Gaelic Storm** Fri., Feb. 28 at 7:30, Flying Monkey
- **Joe Yannitti (Comedy)** Sat., Mar. 1 at 8, Cap Center
- **Paula Poundstone** Sat., Mar. 1 at 8, Music Hall
- **Gaelic Storm** Sun., Mar. 2 at 8, Music Hall
- **Josh Ritter** Tue., Mar. 4 at 7:30, Lebanon Opera House
- **Count Basie Orchestra** Tue., Mar. 4 at 7, Stockbridge Theatre
- **Open Mic Night Featuring Davey O** Thu., Mar. 6 at 8, Tupelo
- **Justin Moore w/ Randy Houser** Thu., Mar. 6 at 7, Tsongas Center
- **Teitur** Thu., Mar. 6 at 7:30, Cap Center
- **Los Lobos** Fri., Mar. 7 at 7:30, Flying Monkey
- **Alan Kelly Gang & The Karan Casey Band** Fri., Mar. 7 at 7:30, Dana Center
- **John Ford Coley** Fri., Mar. 7 at 7, Palace Theatre
- **Comedy with Frank Santorelli and Mitch Stinson** Fri., Mar. 7 at 8, Tupelo
- **Sensational Francis Dunnery Electric Band** Sat., Mar. 8 at 8, Tupelo
- **Annalivia** Sat., Mar. 8 at 7, Franklin Opera House
- **Francis Cunnelly** Sat., Mar. 8 at 8, Tupelo
- **Celtic Nights** Sun., Mar. 9 at 7, Rochester Opera House
- **Tribute to Ella Fitzgerald** Sun., Mar. 9 at 4, Cap Center
- **Tony Bennett (Sold Out)** Sun., Mar. 9 at 8, Music Hall
- **Danu** Tue., Mar. 11 at 7, Stockbridge Theatre
- **Makem and Spain Brothers** Thu., Mar. 13 at 8, Tupelo
- **Paula Poundstone** Sat., Mar. 15 at 7:30, Flying Monkey
- **Jefferson Starship 40th Anniversary Tour** Sat., Mar. 15 at 8, Tupelo
- **Frank Santos (R-Rated Hypnotist)** Sat., Mar. 15 at 7, Palace Theatre

Tupelo

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 Fri. January 24 - SOLD OUT
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Sun.,
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 \$30
 RS-Theater

NRBQ



Thurs., January 30
 8:00 p.m. • \$25 • GA

MAX CREEK



Fri., January 31
 8:00 p.m. • \$25 • GA

MELISSA FERRICK



Sat.,
 February 1
 8:00 p.m.
 \$25
 GA

JAMES MONTGOMERY BAND



Fri.,
 February 7
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 GA

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NIGHT OF COMEDY

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Fri., February 14
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NIGHT OF COMEDY

Featuring Frank Santorelli and Mitch Stinson



Fri.,
 March 7
 8:00 p.m.
 \$18
 RS-Tables

FRANCIS DUNNERY



Sat.,
 March 8
 8:00 p.m.
 \$25
 RS-Tables

THE MAKEM & SPAIN BROTHERS



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SIGNS OF LIFE

Quotes are from *House of Mirth*, by Edith Wharton, born Jan. 13, 1955.

Aquarius (Jan. 20 – Feb. 18) In the hansom she leaned back with a sigh. Why must a girl pay so dearly for her least escape from routine? Why could one never do a natural thing without having to screen it behind a structure of artifice? Throw aside artifice and be natural.

Pisces (Feb. 19 – March 20) She was vexed to see that, in spite of so many years of vigilance, she had blundered twice within five minutes. Blunders will happen.

Aries (March 21 – April 19) Bridge at Bellmont usually lasted till the small hours; and when Lily went to bed that night she had played too long for her own good. Eh, you can sleep late the next morning.

Taurus (April 20 – May 20) The next morning, on her breakfast tray, Miss Bart found a note from her hostess. "Dearest Lily," it ran, "if it is not too much of a bore to be down by ten, will you come to my sitting-room to help me with some tiresome things?" Lily tossed aside the note and subsided on her pillows with a sigh. It WAS a bore to be down by ten — an hour regarded at Bellmont as vaguely synchronous with sunrise — and she knew too well the nature of the tiresome things in question. Prepare to be bored.

Gemini (May 21 – June 20) It was horrible of a young girl to let herself be talked about; however unfounded the charges against her; she must be to blame for their having been made. Examine your logic for flaws.

Cancer (June 21 – July 22) She had no immediate intention of repeating to Lily what she had heard, or even of trying to ascertain its truth by means of discreet interrogation. To do so might be to provoke a scene; and a scene, in the shaken state of Mrs. Peniston's nerves, with the effects of her dinner not worn off, and her mind still tremulous with new

impressions, was a risk she deemed it her duty to avoid. Think carefully before you repeat what you've heard.

Leo (July 23 – Aug. 22) ... abstinence was combined with elegance in a way exemplified by Mrs. Selden's knack of wearing her old velvet as if it were new. You can make it work.

Virgo (Aug. 23 – Sept. 22) She had meant to drive down to the quay and regain the yacht; but she now had the immediate impression that something more was to happen first. A yacht may be waiting for you, but first there's laundry and dirty dishes.

Libra (Sept. 23 – Oct. 22) ...he merely wished to spare her the embarrassment of being ever so remotely connected with the public washing of the Dorset linen. An extra rinse cycle could be helpful.

Scorpio (Oct 23 – Nov. 21) Miss Bart went with the Gormers to Alaska; and the expedition, if it did not produce the effect anticipated by her friend, had at least the negative advantage of removing her from the fiery centre of criticism and discussion. Sometimes it's good just to get away from the frying pan for a little while.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22 – Dec. 21) ...Selden learned with amusement that there were several places where one might miss something by not lunching, or forfeit something by lunching; so that eating actually became a minor consideration on the very spot consecrated to its rites. A social invitation could lead to bigger opportunities. The question will be which one.

Capricorn (Dec. 22 – Jan. 19) He was vaguely aware that Miss Bart was cruising in the Mediterranean with the Dorsets, but it had not occurred to him that there was any chance of running across her on the Riviera, where the season was virtually at an end. You never know where you'll run into someone, so be on your best behavior.

NITE SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

	4						3	
9			5		4			2
		8		2		6		
	1			6			4	
		3				1		
	5			7			8	
		7		3		5		
4			9		2			8
	9						6	

Difficulty Level ★★★

1/23

SU DO KU

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column, and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9. Last week's puzzle answers are below

1/16

6	8	3	7	1	5	2	4	9
2	9	4	8	6	3	5	1	7
5	1	7	9	2	4	8	3	6
8	2	6	1	3	9	7	5	4
7	4	1	2	5	8	9	6	3
9	3	5	4	7	6	1	8	2
1	5	2	6	4	7	3	9	8
3	6	9	5	8	2	4	7	1
4	7	8	3	9	1	6	2	5

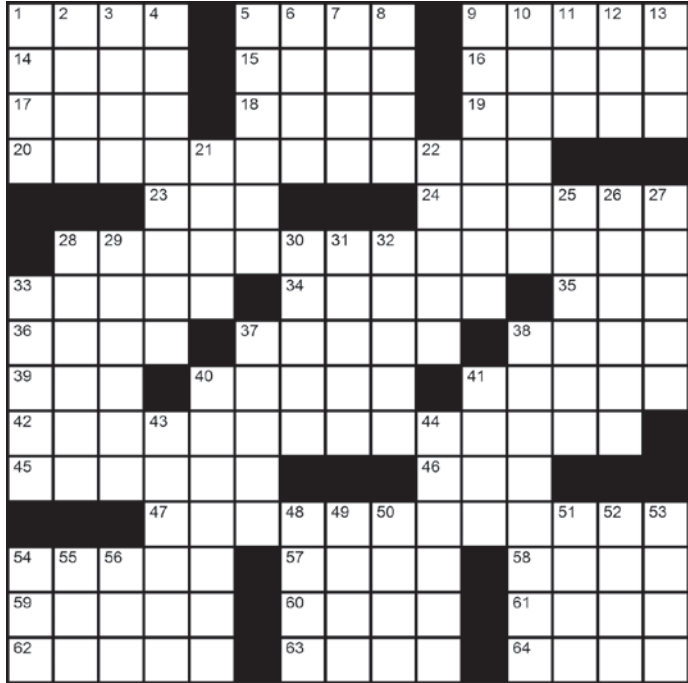
Difficulty Level ★★★

1/16

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“Words That Never Were” — a mashup from 2013 lists

- Across**
- 1 Agile
 - 5 Give the appearance of
 - 9 Potato chip flavor
 - 14 Herbal medicine succulent
 - 15 Meat approver, for short
 - 16 “A Delicate Balance” playwright
 - 17 “Damn Yankees” temptress
 - 18 DC team
 - 19 Epic about the Trojan War
 - 20 They stand up for a cause by bumping and grinding?



- 23 Industry, casually
- 24 Rare batteries
- 28 The act of working out a national budget with new fried desserts?
- 33 Babbling waterway
- 34 Clashing
- 35 Come ___ standstill
- 36 Place to play hockey
- 37 Hatch at the Capitol
- 38 Web address letters
- 39 Thurman who played June in “Henry & June”
- 40 Oven setting
- 41 Where much of “Torchwood” takes place
- 42 Came up with a rational reason for taking one’s own picture?

1/16



- 45 Tried, with “at”
- 46 World of Warcraft, for one
- 47 Giant swirl of Buzzfeed posts?
- 54 Sugar frontman Bob
- 57 Conical-bore instrument
- 58 Part of USNA
- 59 Birchbark vessel
- 60 Grumpy Cat, e.g.
- 61 Grooving on
- 62 Sports forum
- 63 “South Park” kid
- 64 British king of literature

Down

- 1 Everything bagel topping
- 2 Blizzard battler
- 3 Casting director’s offer
- 4 It gets signed at school
- 5 General who wrote of military arts
- 6 “Caprica” actor Morales
- 7 1999 reality-show satire
- 8 “Heroes” star Oka
- 9 Not a good thing to hotwire
- 10 Prepared
- 11 MLB stat
- 12 One of Estelle’s co-stars
- 13 Letters in math proofs
- 21 Garden hose crimp
- 22 ___ Wrap

- 25 Minute
- 26 Smashed and grabbed
- 27 Loses it
- 28 Combat site of the 1850s
- 29 Mr. McDonald
- 30 Hawaiian staples
- 31 Word before mine or mall
- 32 Suit fabric
- 33 Art store purchase
- 37 Cookies since 1912
- 38 Digital annoyance?
- 40 Earth-shaking concept
- 41 Changing table cloth
- 43 Leno successor
- 44 Former “America’s Funniest People” host Sorkin
- 48 ___ of Maine (toothpaste brand)
- 49 “Yeah, as if!”
- 50 Time out?
- 51 Breakout phenomenon
- 52 Mined-over matter?
- 53 Scent
- 54 Late Beastie Boy
- 55 Dinghy thingy
- 56 “Ceci n’est pas ___ pipe” (Magritte caption)
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Self-appreciation

Ask Americans how they stand compared to their fellow countrymen, and in survey after survey, the vast majority rank themselves “above average” in such areas as driving skill, sexual prowess, and general honesty. A recent study of English prisoners, published in the British Journal of Social Psychology, revealed that those miscreants think they, too, are in the upper half. They rate themselves above average (whether compared to Britons in prison or in society at large) in compassion, generosity, dependability, trustworthiness and honesty. In fact, the only trait on the University of Southampton survey on which the criminals failed to rank themselves as better than the typical Brit was “law-abidingness.” On that trait, the inmates rated themselves merely as “average.”

Compelling explanations

• Robert Bourque, 55, was convicted of DUI in Sarnia, Ontario, in October, but continued to deny the charge. He admitted he had four beers on the day of the traffic stop but said the Breathalyzer result was misleading because he had recently poured alcohol into his ears to test his theory about how Jesus healed the sick. (Bourque was acting as his own lawyer.)

• The mother and other relatives of William Medina, 24, said they felt hurt by the public’s comments suggesting that Medina and his partner in the November Reading, Pa., armed robbery were “thugs.” William was a “family man” — “no big hard criminal,” his mother said. The two robbers, armed and wearing masks, were gunned down by a Krick’s Korner customer who said he feared the worst when he saw the robbers leading a store employee at gunpoint into a back room. A Medina cousin said he deplored people’s taking the law into their own hands.

Ironies

• In December, a California appeals court endorsed actor Tippi Hedren’s victory suing the lawyer who had earlier failed to win compensation for her from a 2006 studio accident. In Hedren’s most famous movie role, she was attacked by birds in Alfred Hitchcock’s iconic film and in 2006 had been clobbered by falling scenery caused by birds nesting in an attic over a stage.

• A man who won a Hollywood raffle to watch the finale of “Breaking Bad” with cast members was arrested in Fort Myers, Fla., in January and faces his own intent-to-sell drug charges. Two weeks earlier, unrelated to the show or the raffle, a man with the same name as the show’s protagonist (Walter White) was sentenced in Billings, Mont., to 12 years in prison on drug charges.

• Arvind Kejriwal, fresh from his electoral victory as chief minister of the state of New Delhi, India, was to report to work on Monday, Dec. 30, to begin fulfilling his anti-corruption administration — one that promised unprecedented “transparency” to make government visible to constituents. However, the transparency of his first public announcement was perhaps over-the-top — that he was taking the day off because of a bout of diarrhea. Said a colleague, “When the chief minister gives you a minute-by-minute update on his bowel movements, hail democracy.”

Fine points of the law

• Michael Robertson, 31, argued via a lawyer before Massachusetts’s highest court in November that his arrest for taking “upskirt” photographs of a woman on the subway should be tossed out — asserting that he has a constitutional right to take pictures of anything that is not covered up in public. Said his lawyer (a woman), noting that the victim’s skirt provided only partial covering, “If a clothed person reveals a body part whether it was intentional or unintentional, he or she cannot expect privacy.” (Robertson’s case had been suspended at the trial court while he seeks a ruling on his legal interpretation.)

• The December federal court decision, by Judge William Pauley, dismissing a challenge to the National Security Agency’s phone surveillance program, suggested that even if a citizen might prove that his constitutional right to privacy was being violated, that person could never know it in the first place and thus never challenge, because Congress purposely made the NSA program secret. In fact,

wrote Judge Pauley, the alleged constitutional violation that created the current lawsuit only came to light because of the unauthorized leaks by Edward Snowden. Therefore, if Congress never amends its secret laws, citizens will never get to find out whether their rights are being violated.

Perspective

For nearly 30 years, until 2007, the U.S. national symbol, the bald eagle, was endangered and protected, but officially they (along with golden eagles) are now so insignificant that the government is willing to endure dozens of them being chopped to death annually in the blades of “clean energy” wind turbines. An Associated Press investigation in December revealed that the federal government is purposely ignoring the eagles’ attrition out of fear that outraged conservationists’ campaigns will hinder development of wind power as an alternative to coal-produced electricity.

Least competent criminals

According to a police report, Tevin Monroe, 31, walked into a McDonald’s in Norfolk, Va., in December to inquire about a job, asked a manager for an application and was told that the form was available online and that he should go download it. The manager’s response left Monroe dissatisfied, and he lifted his shirt to show the manager the gun in his waistband. The manager quickly located a paper application for Monroe (but also discreetly summoned police, who arrived and arrested Monroe while he was still filling out the form).

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THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW

A TYPICAL DAY IN THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE

HELLO! I'M GOVERNOR CHRIS CHRISTIE!
I'M AFRAID I HAVE NO IDEA WHO
YOU PEOPLE ARE!

I'M YOUR DEPUTY
CHIEF OF STAFF!

NO KIDDING!

AND I'M ONE OF YOUR APPOINTEES
AT THE PORT AUTHORITY! ALSO, WE
WENT TO HIGH SCHOOL TOGETHER!

WHADDYA KNOW!
IT'S A SMALL
WORLD, ISN'T IT!

WELL, YOU LOOK LIKE YOU'RE
WORKING ON SOMETHING IMPORTANT!
CARRY ON! I'M SURE I DON'T
NEED TO KNOW THE DETAILS!

IT'S NOT LIKE I'M SOME SORT
OF MICRO-MANAGER!

ABSOLUTELY
NOT, SIR!

AND JUST IN CASE ANYBODY ASKS,
I'M DEFINITELY NOT A VINDICTIVE
BULLY SEETHING WITH BARELY CON-
TAINED RAGE! POLITICIANS WHO
CROSS ME HAVE NOTHING TO
FEAR!

OH, LOOK! A FLY HAS LANDED ON
MY NOSE! WELL, LIVE AND LET
LIVE, THAT'S WHAT I SAY! I'M
SURE THE LITTLE FELLOW WILL BE
ON HIS WAY SOON ENOUGH--UN-
IMPEDED BY ME!

ALL RIGHT, I'LL BE IN MY OFFICE
IF YOU NEED ME, WHOEVER YOU ARE.

NOT TO WORRY, SIR! THIS
STATE PRETTY MUCH RUNS
ITSELF!

OKAY! BACK TO WORK ON OUR
INEXPLICABLE PERSONAL VENDETTA
AGAINST THE MAYOR OF FORT LEE!

THE GOVERNOR MUST
NEVER KNOW! IT
WOULD MAKE HIM
VERY, VERY SAD!

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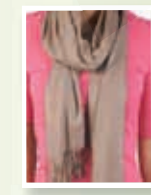
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